

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOI/PA
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FOI/PA# 1424887-0

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Page 161 ~ Referral/Direct;
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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

NEW YORK CITY

N. Y. FILE NO.

100-30210 AH

REPORT MADE AT NEW YORK CITY	DATE WHEN MADE 8/4/42	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 3/3/42	REPORT MADE BY R. N. FRANK
TITLE JOSEPH WRIGHT ALSOP, Passenger SS Gripsholm			CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

State Department advised Bureau that subject was a passenger aboard the SS Gripsholm which is due to arrive in the United States during August 1942 from the Far East and that subject was born October 11, 1910 at Avon, Connecticut; that subject has been outside the United States since June 1941 and has been principally in India. His occupation is given as Lieutenant, J. G., U.S.N.R. Subject resides with wife at 2709 Dumbarton Avenue N. W., Washington, D. C. Bureau and New York Field Division files were checked with negative results. New Haven and Washington Field Divisions were requested by teletype dated August 3, 1942 to conduct further investigation.

- P -

**ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9-21-89 BY SP8 BTJ/af**

REFERENCE:

Bureau letter to New York Field Division dated July 28, 1942.

DETAILS:

AT NEW YORK, NEW YORK

In instant file is a photostatic copy of a record which the Bureau received from the State Department which contains information that JOSEPH WRIGHT ALSOP, whose residence in the United States is 2709 Dumbarton Avenue N.W., Washington, D. C., is a passenger on the SS Gripsholm which is due to arrive in the United States in August 1942 from the Far East. This record reveals that the subject was born October 11, 1910 in Avon,

100-354477-X *SK*

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5-Bureau 1-Col. S.V. Constant 1-Capt. R.C. MacFall, ONI 1-I & N Service 2-New York	100-354477-3 AUG 18 1942 <i>[Handwritten initials]</i>	RECORDED & INDEXED <i>[Handwritten initials]</i>

APR 9 1957 *[Handwritten initials]*

N. Y. 100-30210

Connecticut. His occupation is given as Lieutenant, J.G., U.S.N.R. The record reveals he has been outside the United States since June 1941 and principally has been in India. His wife resides at the above mentioned Washington address. This record further reveals that welfare inquiries concerning subject were made by the following:

Mrs. JOSEPH W. ~~ALSOP~~, SR. (mother)
Wood Ford Farm
Avon, Connecticut

Mr. OSMUND L. ~~VARELA~~, Assistant Treasurer
National Savings and Trust Company
Fifteenth and New York Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D. C.

Captain ROBERT ~~KINTNER~~, Deputy Director
Office of Facts and Figures
Library of Congress Annex
Washington, D. C.

Bureau and New York Field Division files were checked with negative results.

Conference teletype was forwarded to the New Haven and Washington Field Divisions dated August 3, 1942 and the New Haven Field Division was requested to interview subject's mother, mentioned above.

The Washington Field Division was requested in the above teletype, to check records at the Navy Department, to interview subject's wife, as well as interviewing VARELA and KINTNER, mentioned above.

The local office of G-2 and ONI has been requested to furnish any information in their files to the Immigration and Naturalization Service.

THE FAILURE TO DEVELOP ANY DEROGATORY INFORMATION THROUGH A PERSONAL INTERVIEW WITH THE SUBJECT IN THIS CASE, THE INVESTIGATIVE EFFORT OF THE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION OR A CHECK OF ITS FILES DOES NOT CONSTITUTE AN APPROVAL OR ENDORSEMENT OF THIS INDIVIDUAL'S ADMITTANCE TO THIS COUNTRY BY THE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION.

- P E N D I N G -

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11-15-83 BY 6032

afw
1

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

SKM:LEB
100-9593

August 6, 1942

DECLASSIFIED BY SP3573/08
ON 9-21-89

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

CONFIDENTIAL

Re: JOSEPH WRIGHT ALSOP
PASSENGER, SS GRIPSHOLM
INTERNAL SECURITY

Dear Sir:

A teletypewriter message was received from the New York Field Division on the evening of August 5, 1942, in reference to JOSEPH WRIGHT ALSOP, described as a passenger on the SS Gripsholm, and it was stated that he was born October 11, 1910, at Avon, Connecticut; that his wife resides at 2709 Dumbarton Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C.; that he is employed as a Lieutenant, Junior Grade, USNR, and has been outside of the United States since June, 1941, principally in Egypt; that welfare inquiries were made by MRS. JOSEPH W. ALSOP, SR., Wood Ford Farm, Avon, Connecticut, his mother, MR. OSMUND L. VARELA, Assistant Treasurer, National Savings and Trust Company, Washington, D. C., and by Captain ROBERT KINTNER, Deputy Director, Office of Facts and Figures, Washington, D. C. The Washington Field Division was requested to check the files of the Navy for advice as to ALSOP, and to interview his wife and MESSRS. VARELA and KINTNER.

It was requested that sufficient background investigation be conducted to establish the desirability of subject's entrance into the country by interviewing employers, relatives and friends. Further request was that his reasons for going to India be determined, his employment while there and his reasons for returning to the United States. It was stated that persons interviewed should be asked if they knew of any subversive activities on his part either in the United States or abroad.

The writer determined telephonically through Lieutenant Commander RHEA WHITLEY of the Navy Department that ALSOP is a Lieutenant, Junior Grade, in the United States Naval Reserve.

Mr. Tolson.....
Mr. E. A. Tamm.....
Mr. Clegg.....
Mr. Glavin.....
Mr. Ladd.....
Mr. Nichols.....
Mr. Rosen.....
Mr. Tracy.....
Mr. Carson.....
Mr. Coffey.....
Mr. Hendon.....
Mr. Pennington.....
Mr. Quinn Tamm.....
Mr. Nease.....
Miss Gandy.....

APR 9

50 AUG 18 1942
1957

COPY IN FILE

EX-15

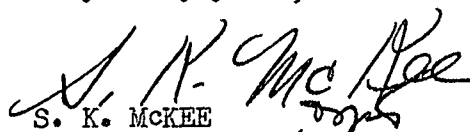
Director
Joseph Wright Alsop
SKM:LEB
100-9593
August 6, 1942

assigned to intelligence work and is in active duty status. He was described as a cousin of MRS. ELEANOR ROOSEVELT. Further advice was that he departed San Francisco, California, July 15, 1941, for Bombay, India, where he was an Assistant Naval Observer. No advice was furnished regarding his presence in Egypt, his transfer to that point or his return to the United States.

It is pointed out that ALSOP and ROBERT MINTNER were former co-Columnists in Washington, D. C.

The writer discussed this inquiry telephonically with MR. R. P. KRAMER of the Bureau, and instruction was received that no further inquiry should be conducted into this matter.

Very truly yours,


S. K. MCKEE
Special Agent in Charge

cc - New York



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

August 6, 1942

RPK:PES

Received: 10:25 a.m.

Transcribed: 11:15 a.m.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. LADD

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Kramer _____
Mr. McGuire _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Tele. Room _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Beahm _____
Miss Gandy _____

SAC McKee of the Washington Field Office called and stated he received a teletype from the New York Office regarding a passenger on the S.S. "Gripsholm", Joseph Wright Alsop. McKee advised that the New York Office desired inquiries made and the wire stated that Alsop's occupation is Lieutenant Junior Grade, U.S.N.R., and stated that he has been outside the United States since June, 1941, principally in Egypt. The wire indicated that welfare inquiries were made by Mrs. Joseph W. Alsop, Sr., Woodport Farm, Avon, Connecticut, mother; Mr. Osmond L. Verilla (phonetic), Assistant Treasurer, National Savings and Trust Company, Washington, D. C.; Captain Robert Kimmer (phonetic), Deputy Director, Office of Facts and Figures; the Library of Congress; et cetera.

The wire requested that the Washington Field Office make a check of the files and interview his wife, Verillo and Kimmer. McKee stated he believed Alsop and Kimmer formerly were co-columnists.

McKee advised he talked telephonically with Lieutenant Rhea Whitley of the Navy Department and the latter stated their files reflected Alsop is a Lieutenant Junior Grade, U.S.N.R., in the intelligence service. He continued that Alsop has been outside the United States on active duty since July, 1941, having left San Francisco for Bombay, India, and is a cousin of Mrs. Roosevelt. Lieutenant Whitley desired to know if the Bureau saw any reason why the Navy Department should continue an investigation on Alsop and Mr. McKee stated he did not think so.

I instructed Mr. McKee that I did not believe these inquiries should be made and he stated he would advise the New York Office by teletype and state that the Bureau instructs no further inquiry. Mr. McKee also stated that if Alsop is a naval intelligence man the Navy will probably accept responsibility for him coming back into the United States.

Respectfully,

R. P. Kramer

FOR DEFENSE



BUY
UNITED
STATES
SAVINGS
BONDS
AND STAMPS

374 APR 9 1957
51 AUG 20 1942

FILE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9-21-89 BY SP8 BJB

RECORDED
INDEXED
100-354477-121
11-12912-2

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW YORK CITY**

NY FILE NO. **100-30210 ITN**

REPORT MADE AT NEW YORK CITY	DATE WHEN MADE 8/6/42	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 8/6/42	REPORT MADE BY R. N. PRANKE
TITLE JOSEPH WRIGHT ALSOP PASSENGER S. S. GRIPSHOLM			CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Washington Field Division advised that subject is a Lieutenant J.G., U.S.N.R., Intelligence Service and is on active duty; departed from San Francisco, California 7/15/41 for Bombay, India, to serve as Assistant Naval Observer. Subject also is cousin of MRS. ELEANOR ROOSEVELT. Bureau requested no further inquiry should be made concerning subject.

- C -

REFERENCE:

Report of Special Agent R. N. Pranke, dated at New York City, 8/4/42.

Teletype from Washington Field Division to New York dated 8/6/42.

DETAILS:

AT NEW YORK, NEW YORK

**ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9-21-89 BY SP8 BTJ/ab**

The Washington Field Division was requested by teletype dated August 3rd, 1942 to conduct an investigation at Washington, D. C., concerning subject, and in response to that request the Washington Field Division advised the New York Field Division by teletype dated August 6, 1942, that advice was received from the United States Navy Department that subject is a Lieutenant, Junior Grade, United States Naval Reserve, Intelligence Service, and is on active duty; that he departed from San Francisco, California on July 15, 1941 for Bombay, India, to serve as an Assistant Naval Observer. No information was furnished

100-354477-83

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE <i>[Signature]</i>	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 397 1 - Bureau 1 - Col. S.V. Constant, G-2 1 - Capt. R. C. MacFall, ONI 1 - I. & N. S. 2 - New York		100-1294182-47 AUG 8 1942 RECORDED	100-1294182-47 AUG 8 1942 RECORDED

APR 9 1957

NY 100-30210

relative to his assignment in Egypt or about his return to this country. The teletype also reflected that subject is a cousin of MRS. ELEANOR ROOSEVELT, and the Bureau advised the Washington Field Division that no further inquiry should be conducted concerning the subject.

Accordingly the New Haven Field Division was requested by teletype dated August 6th, 1942 to disregard interviewing subject's mother, MRS. JOSEPH W. ALSOP, SENIOR, Wood Ford Farm, Avon, Connecticut, if that investigation was not already conducted.

The local offices of G-2 and ONI have been requested to furnish any information in their files to the Immigration and Naturalization Service.

THE FAILURE TO DEVELOP ANY DEROGATORY INFORMATION THROUGH A PERSONAL INTERVIEW WITH THE SUBJECT IN THIS CASE, THE INVESTIGATIVE EFFORT OF THE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION OR A CHECK OF ITS FILES DOES NOT CONSTITUTE AN APPROVAL OR ENDORSEMENT OF THIS INDIVIDUAL'S ADMITTANCE TO THIS COUNTRY BY THE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION.

* CLOSED*



WEH:mmh
Called 8:50 a.m.
Dictated 9:00 a.m.

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

August 6, 1942

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. D. M. LADD

RE: S.S. GRIPSHOLM
New York, New York

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Holloman _____
Tele. Room _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

SAC McKee, Washington Field Office, telephoned and stated that he had received a teletype from the New York Office requesting them to conduct an investigation on Joseph Wright Alsop, a passenger on the Gripsholm.

Mr. McKee stated that inasmuch as the teletype reflected that Alsop is a lieutenant (junior grade) U.S.N.R., he was desirous of knowing whether they should conduct an investigation of this individual.

He stated also that the teletype indicated that Alsop informed the interviewers that he has been on active duty.

ACTION

I told Mr. McKee that apparently the information in the teletype that Alsop has a commission in the U.S.N.R. was secured by the New York Office as a result of their interview with this passenger. Mr. McKee agreed that this was no doubt the case.

Accordingly, I told Mr. McKee that it would be advisable to check with ONI here in Washington for the purpose of verifying or refuting Alsop's allegation that he does hold this commission in the Naval Reserve. I told him that in the event the information given by Alsop was verified through their check at ONI, no further inquiry should be made concerning him. Mr. McKee agreed that this would be the best procedure to follow and that he would handle it accordingly.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9-2-89 BY 88151 JSP
Respectfully,
H. E. Hopton

50 AUG 12 1942
372

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

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APR 9 1957

100-354477-1402
100-124112-5
11 AUG 7 1942
RBY

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT NEW YORK, NEW YORK

NY FILE NO. 100-30210 ASR

Form No. 1 THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT		NEW YORK, NEW YORK		REPORT MADE BY
REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	RALPH F. LEWIS (A)	
NEW YORK, NEW YORK	8/25/42	8/25/42	CHARACTER OF CASE	
TITLE			INTERNAL SECURITY	
JOSEPH WRIGHT ALSOP, Passenger S.S. GRIPSHOLM				

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Questionnaire filled out by subject on board S.S. GRIPSHOLM and results of interview with subject substantiate background, activities and loyalty set out in reference reports, teletypes and letter. Description of subject set forth; background and loyalty unquestioned.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9-21-89 BY SP 8 D7 JM

- C -

REFERENCES:
August

Reports of Special Agent R. N. Pranke dated at New York City August 4, 1942 and August 6, 1942.

Teletype from New Haven to New York dated August 6, 1942.

Letter from Washington Field to Bureau dated August 8, 1942.

DETAILS:

DETAILS: A review of the questionnaire prepared by the subject while on board the S.S. GRIPSHOLM enroute to New York City reveals that this information duplicates information previously obtained concerning the subject as set out in reference reports, teletype and letter. Inasmuch as no new facts are contained in this questionnaire, no summary of this questionnaire is being made at this time.

being made at this time.

JOSEPH WRIGHT ALSOP was interviewed on board the S.S. GRIPSHOLM on August 25, 1942 by Special Agent Fred L. Schofield, at which time the following information was obtained. ALSOP is traveling alone and his home town is Avon, Connecticut. He is married and his wife lives in Washington, D. C. He is a journalist, who has written several books, and has been a columnist in Washington, D. C. He is a member of several prominent clubs in New York City and hopes to join General SHENAU in China in the very near future so that he may actively combat the Japanese. He advised that he had no pertinent information concerning any suspicious circumstances on board the ship.

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

APPROVED AND
FORWARDED

**SPECIAL AGENT
IN CHARGE**

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1 - Capt. R. C. MacFall, ONI
1 - Col. S. V. Constant, G-2
1 - I. & N. S., Ellis Island
2 - New York

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

2431

APR 9 1957 179

NY 100-30210

His description as obtained from observation and questioning is as follows:

Age:	41 years (born 10/11/10)
Height:	5' 9"
Weight:	156 pounds
Build:	Medium
Hair:	Brown
Eyes:	Gray
Nationality:	American
Color:	White
Occupation:	American Volunteer Group
Complexion:	Ruddy
Scars and Marks:	None

The local offices of G-2 and ONI have been requested to furnish any information in their files to the Immigration and Naturalization Service.

THE FAILURE TO DEVELOP ANY DEROGATORY INFORMATION THROUGH A PERSONAL INTERVIEW WITH THE SUBJECT IN THIS CASE, THE INVESTIGATIVE EFFORT OF THE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION OR A CHECK OF ITS FILES DOES NOT CONSTITUTE AN APPROVAL OR ENDORSEMENT OF THIS INDIVIDUAL'S ADMITTANCE TO THIS COUNTRY BY THE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION.

Inasmuch as all investigative leads have been covered, this case is being closed.

- C L O S E D -

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW YORK**

NH FILE NO. **100-4042** wn

REPORT MADE AT NEW HAVEN	DATE WHEN MADE 8/27/42	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 8/6/42	REPORT MADE BY JOSEPH CULP
TITLE JOSEPH WRIGHT ALSOP, Jr., Passenger, S. S. Gripsholm			CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

JOSEPH WRIGHT ALSOP, Jr. born 10/11/10, Avon, Conn. Parents advised subject attended Kingswood School, West Hartford, Conn., 1914-23, Graton School, Graton, Mass., 1923-28, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass., 1928-32, when he received A.B. degree. Employed by both Herald Tribune, NYC and North American Newspaper Alliance, from 1932 to Spring of 1941, as correspondent assigned to Wash., D.C., because of connections with White House, his mother being related to the Roosevelts. Wrote newspaper column with Capt. ROBERT KINTER, present Deputy Director, Office of Facts and Figures, Wash., D.C. Secured Lt. JG rating in USNR attached to intelligence unit as political observer and sent to Bombay, India, 6/19/41. Secured release to become administrative aide of American volunteer group head, Col. CHENNAULT. Stopped by present war while in Hong Kong, China. Sought permission from State Department to remain in China but permission refused. All relatives and friends endorse as extremely patriotic loyal American with no subversive tendencies here or abroad and with no foreign sympathies. Subject's family bears finest reputation as loyal trustworthy American family with no subversive activities. No criminal record on subject at Avon Justice Court or

APPROVED AND FORWARDED:

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

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- 5 - Bureau
- 2 - New York
- 2 - Boston
- 2 - New Haven

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

14 AUG 28 1942

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 9-21-81 BY 8157 JAG

APR 10 1957

100-4042

Conn. State Police. Credit rating
excellent, Hartford, Conn.

- RUC -

Reference: Teletypes from New York Field Division
dated 8/5/42 and 8/6/42.

Details: AT AVON, CONN.

Mrs. RAYMOND D. WOODFORD, Town Clerk, Avon, Conn., furnished the birth record of JOSEPH WRIGHT ALSOP, Jr., which reflected he was born 10/11/10 at Avon, Conn., and that his father was JOSEPH WRIGHT ALSOP, who was born in Middletown, Conn., and his mother was CORINNE DOUGLAS ROBINSON, born at Orange, New Jersey.

Mrs. WOODFORD stated she had known the ALSOP family for the past seven years personally and had known of their reputation long before that. She knew them to be loyal American citizens with no subversive activities and stated that their reputation and character in that community were of the highest type. She did not know JOSEPH WRIGHT ALSOP, Jr. personally.

Mrs. MARY F. DENNING, Assistant Postmaster, Avon, stated she had known the ALSOP family for the past eight or nine years and that they were all fine people of good moral character and reputation in the community and had no foreign sympathies or un-American traits. She stated that they occasionally received mail from England but as far as she remembered they had never received any from any other foreign country.

Mr. GEORGE MANCON, Postmaster, Avon, stated he had known the ALSOP family for the past twenty years and that there was absolutely no question about their loyalty to this government or the true Americanism of their son, JOSEPH WRIGHT ALSOP, Jr. MANCON stated ALSOP, Sr. was President of the Hartford County Mutual Fire Insurance Co. of Hartford, Conn., President of the Ayrshire Cattle Association of America, a public utility commissioner for the State of Connecticut, a director of the Connecticut State College, and that he had been First Selectman for the Town of Avon for the past 22 years.

Mr. J. J. ANDERSON, City Prosecutor, Avon, stated that he was foreman of the Wood Ford Dairy Farm, which was owned by Mr. ALSOP, Sr. He stated during the fifteen years he had been intimately acquainted with the ALSOP family he had never known anything that would reflect on their character or standing in that community and that they were regarded as being loyal patriotic Americans. He further stated he knew JOSEPH WRIGHT ALSOP, Jr. to be an

extremely patriotic individual who had desired for three years to enter into some sort of military service in the present world conflict on the side of the U. S. or her allies. He stated that there was no criminal record for ALSOP, Jr. in the Justice Court or the Town of Avon.

Mrs. CORINNE DOUGLAS ALSOP, Wood Ford Farm, mother of JOSEPH WRIGHT ALSOP, Jr., stated that he attended Kingswood School in West Hartford, Conn. from 1919 to 1923, the Graton School, Graton, Mass., 1923 to 1928, and Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass., 1928 to 1932, where he received a BA degree. She stated that upon his graduation he was employed by the Herald Tribune newspaper in New York City and remained employed by that concern and also by the North American Newspaper Alliance from 1932 until the Spring of 1941. He was a correspondent writing special columns being assigned to the Washington, D. C. offices because of his connection with the White House, his mother stating that she was a second cousin to Mrs. ELEANOR ROOSEVELT and a distant relative to the President.

Mrs. ALSOP further stated that her son wrote a column with Captain ROBERT KINTNER, who is at the present time Deputy Director of the Office of Facts and Figures in Washington, D. C. She stated that her son wrote two books which were well known publications, one being "The One Hundred and Sixty Eight Days," published by Doubleday Doran, and the other "The American White Papers," published by Simon-Schuster.

She stated her son had expressed a desire to participate in the present emergency in some capacity for the last 3½ years and that early in 1941 he made arrangements to receive a Lieutenant Junior Grade rating in the U. S. Naval Reserve and was attached to the Intelligence Unit as a political observer. He was sent to Bombay, India on 6/19/41. However, he was dissatisfied for reasons she did not know and secured a release so that he could become an administrative aide to Colonel CHENNAULT, who was head of the American volunteer group in China.

She stated her son was on the way to Manila on business for Colonel CHENNAULT, via Hong Kong, China, when the present war in that section overtook him and he was forced to remain. On 12/6/41 her son called home from Hong Kong, China and his family has not heard from him directly since then, except by a cablegram received from Hong Kong about 12/15/41 stating that he had arrived safely in Hong Kong.

Mrs. ALSOP stated that she knew through confidential sources in the State Department that her son was returning on the S. S. "Gripsholm." She stated that this source in the State Department advised her that her son had wired the State Department from Portuguese East Africa requesting

they allow him to return to China to continue his work, but that the State Department ordered him to return to the U. S. Mrs. ALSOP expressed the opinion that her son was passionate in his belief in the U.S. and in his loyalty and patriotism for the U. S. She stated she knew definitely that he had no foreign sympathies and had never participated in any subversive activities and that she would be responsible for her son's actions while in the U. S.

Mrs. ALSOP further stated that her son STEWART J. O. ALSOP was refused admittance into the U. S. Navy due to physical reasons and since May, 1942 had been in the 60th Regiment of King's Royal Rifle Corps, located at some unknown address in England.

JOSEPH WRIGHT ALSOP, Sr., the father of JOSEPH WRIGHT ALSOP, Jr., and JOHN DeK ~~ALSOP~~, his brother, both verified all of the statement made by Mrs. ALSOP and further stated that in their opinion JOSEPH WRIGHT ALSOP, Jr. was extremely loyal and patriotic, did not have any foreign sympathies, and had never participated in any un-American or subversive activities. They both stated that they would vouch for him.

Mr. FRANK CALIENDO of the Hartford Credit Rating Bureau, Inc., 252 Asylum St., Hartford, stated the records of that office reflected JOSEPH WRIGHT ALSOP, Jr. had an excellent credit rating in his files.

Mrs. MARION GOULD of the Bureau of Identification, Conn. State Police, 100 Washington St., Hartford, and Miss DOROTHY BUECHNER of the Suspensions Section of the Motor Vehicle Department, State Office Building, and Officer SULLIVAN of the Hartford Police Court, all searched the records of their offices against the name of JOSEPH WRIGHT ALSOP, Jr. with negative results.

On 8/6/42 a teletype was received from the New York Field Division advising discontinuance of the investigation. In view of this fact, no further investigation is being conducted.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION
TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

m.g.

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington Field Office, 1437 K St., N.W.
Washington, D. C.

August 28, 1942

SKM:MCP
100-9593

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

RE: JOSEPH WRIGHT ALSOP
PASSENGER, SS GRIPSHOLM
INTERNAL SECURITY

Dear Sir:

With further reference to this matter, this is to advise that Lieutenant Commander RHEA WHITLEY, of the Navy Department telephoned the writer on August 27, 1942 and referred to our previous telephonic conversation in this matter. He advised at this time that he had now learned that shortly after ALSOP left the country for India in 1941 that he had submitted his resignation as a Naval officer. He stated the records are not clear as to when he ceased to be in the employ of the United States Navy, and that exact information in this regard could not be furnished at this time inasmuch as the formal acceptance of the resignation was tied up due to settlement of accounts and necessary physical examinations. He stated, however, that as at the time of ALSOP'S return to this country he was not a United States Navy Reserve Officer.

~~DEFERRED RECORDING~~

This is for the advice of the New York Field Division.

Very truly yours,

S. K. McKee
S. K. McKEE
Special Agent in Charge

cc-New York



APR 9 1957

Eab

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. E. A. Tamm	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Carson	
Mr. Coffey	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Pennington	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

100-354477-1274

Clackland

DECLASSIFIED BY *100-354477-1274*
ON *9/2/99*

RECORDED

100-354477-1274

F	B	I
8	AUG 31 1942	

SEP

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

May 31, 1939

EAT:HA

2:27 P. M.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

Joe Alsop of the American Newspaper Alliance called, having been referred to my office from your office, and stated he is writing a piece on important Nazi officials who have been stationed in Consulates in the United States and wondered if the Bureau had any kind of private notion about why this has been done. He advised he was in Boston a week or so ago and learned of a Nazi official there who has been given a tremendous salary and has tried to take almost the biggest house in town on a sale basis because they would not let him hang out the Nazi flag when he wanted to. He stated he understood Weidemann is making a similar splash in San Francisco and as it seems to be an unpleasant situation to him he wanted to write an article about it, and wondered if there was any kind of general idea in the Bureau about why these men were stationed in Boston and San Francisco, particularly in view of the fact that they are such important German figures and have such tremendous amounts of money at their disposal. I advised Mr. Alsop there was no comment I could make because of the nature of our work in the espionage and counterespionage field, and that we could not even express a view on matters of this kind.

Alsop advised he was not asking that I make a comment and he just wondered if there was any kind of suspicion I could indicate to him off the record which would give me some kind of lead in the matter. I told him I could not do that and that I did not know anyone to suggest from whom this information might be obtained. He then advised he would like very much to talk with you when you arrived back in Washington and I informed I would be glad to tell you that he called and would like to talk with you. He gave his office telephone as National 2304 and his home telephone as Dupont 2528.

100-354477-X8

INDEXED
&
Respectfully,

E. A. Tamm

ENCLOSURE

JUN 6 1939

TOLSON
TAMM
NICHOLS
W. A. RORER
Miss Gandy

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9-21-89 BY 00028517Jaf

38 M/L 9

NEW OFFICE ADDRESS

of

JOSEPH ^② ALSOP and ROBERT KINTNER

ROOM 319 BOND BUILDING

Washington, D. C.

Telephone: NAtional 3718

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9-21-89 BY 88857J/ab

100-354477-X9

94-4-3150-2

DEPT. BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

2 NOV 8 1960

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

[Signature]

*Alsup and
Kintner met
and discussed
11/4/40
shuck*

NOV 22 1961 *man*

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

June 1, 1939.

2m
Mr. Tolson says Mr. McGuire is very anxious to have the Newman report today.

Mr. Tolson said he talked with Mr. Alsop and that he is a very peculiar person. He says he does not deal with "publicity men" and therefore doesn't care to talk to Gordon Dean.

Mr. Tolson thought perhaps Mr. Hoover might call him.

hwg

Mr. Tolson ✓
Mr. Nathan ✓
Mr. Tamm ✓
Mr. Clegg ✓
Mr. Coffey ✓
Mr. Crowl
Mr. Egan
Mr. Foxworth
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Lester
Mr. McIntire ✓
Mr. Nichols ✓
Mr. Q. Tamm
Mr. Tracy
Miss Beahm
Miss Gandy

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No I can't talk to him. He must deal through Dean.
At

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&
INDEXED

94-4-3146-1
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JUN 6 1939
TOLSON
TAMM
NICHOLS
ONE

NOV 22 1961 msh

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Tolson

FROM : L. B. Nichols

SUBJECT: Stewart Alsop

DATE: 12/3/46

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. E. A. Tamm	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	✓
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Carson	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Pennington	
Mr. Quinn Tamm	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Beahm	
Miss Gandy	

Stewart Alsop called by reference from the Director's Office. He was very anxious to arrange for an appointment to see the Director and stated that he was doing 2 articles for the Saturday Evening Post on the general subject of Communism and the CIO; that he had been talking with Jim Carey, an old friend of his who he understood was an old friend of the Director also and he particularly wanted to check with the Director one story Carey told him which was that there was a CIO Convention in 1943 and a caucus of the Communist forces; that the FBI was right behind them and knew everything that went on and that this information had been furnished to the anti-Communist forces in the CIO. This, of course, is the old story of our surveillance of Roy Bannerman Hudson who directed Lee Pressman in the activities of the Resolutions Committee and actually dictated at least one of the resolutions.

I told Alsop that I doubted very much that the Director could make any comment on the matter; that he has had many similar inquiries and has found it necessary to decline to go into the matter in any detail. Alsop wondered if arrangements couldn't be made for him to see the Director and if the information couldn't be furnished him. He stated that in addition he wants to explore the whole Communist situation and get the Director's views as to just how tough and how much of a threat the Communists are. He would like to be called either at his office, telephone number District-3578 or at Hobart-0771, his residence. I told him that I would talk to the Director and check when he got back.

I frankly think that if the CIO incident is ever to be used that the Director should keep it for himself and that we should tell Stuart Alsop that at the present time there is no way the Director can be of any assistance to him. The Alsops certainly have not been at all fair to the Bureau in their column.

LBN:MP

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EX-31 DEC 18 1946

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DATE 9-27-89 BY 88357J-af

NOV 22 1961

58 DEC 19 1946

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Tolson
 FROM : L. B. Nichols
 SUBJECT: Stewart Alsop

DATE: 12/4/46

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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 DATE 9-21-89 BY SP8 BTJ/AB

I called Stewart Alsop immediately after he had called the Director's Office this morning. I told him that I had been out of the office which accounted for my not having called him back pursuant to his call of last evening; that I had discussed the matter of our conversation of yesterday with the Director and that the Director stated that he had adhered to the policy of not discussing the matter of Communism with newspapermen and that it would not be possible for him to discuss this subject. Stewart Alsop was argumentative and stated that he thought that at least the Director could see him as he had several matters involving the FBI and that wanted in all fairness to be accurate; that if the Director would see him or discuss the matter, then there was nothing else that he do but to use his best information.

He then stated that his brother, Joseph Alsop, desired to speak to me. Joseph Alsop then came on the phone and said, "You a I know that Mr. Hoover does talk to newspapermen." I told him that I knew that the Director has not talked with newspapermen on the subject of Communism and immediately after the Canadian case broke last year a very strict "no comment" policy was adopted and has been adhered to by the Director; that there have been any number of very legitimate and high-grade newspapermen who have approached the Director and that the Director simply has not been in a position to talk. Alsop stated he could not understand this; that in all the years of newspaper experience he has never found a situation where a serious newspaperman desiring to discuss a serious subject would not at least be given an audience by a Government official; that he considered the request was perfectly reasonable and that he should be permitted to explain what he has in mind; that he has a considerable number of facts involving the FBI and the Director and that he simply cannot understand or reconcile why he cannot at least have the opportunity of explaining them to the Director. He stated that he has never had such an experience before and that he has been able to go to the high Government officials including the President of the United States, he hoped that I would tell the Director this for him, whereupon he hung up.

I expect that any stories that they do probably will be subject of shabby treatment and if we protest they, of course, will back with the statement that they tried to get the facts and could not. I did not engage in any great amount of discussion with him although I frankly would have liked to have told him off and asked him why he is so concerned now as he didn't have the courtesy of coming to us when he was doing the nasty quips on the OSS piece.

As I see it, there are 3 courses of action - (1) Stand pat and do nothing; (2) I do not see how even if the Director should

L. B. Nichols

Memorandum for Mr. Tolson

12/4/46

Re: Stewart Alsop

believe it advisable to see them that he could consistently do it now; however, I think that consideration should be given to the proposition of calling Alsop back and telling him that his message has been conveyed to the Director and that while the Director had this "no comment" policy and was out of the office and would not be available to see Alsop personally that if Alsop wanted to call at the Bureau and furnish us with the information that he has allegedly involving us that consideration would then be given to telling him whether the information was correct and accurate or whether we would have to continue to "no comment." If this is done we should also use this opportunity of letting Alsop know in no uncertain terms that he is rather inconsistent in his statements today with the dirty cracks that he made about the Director and the Bureau in connection with the OSS situation. (3) The Director might want to contact Carey of the CIO who according to Stewart Alsop furnished material to him involving the Bureau and finding out exactly what Carey did furnish and seeing to it that what Carey furnished was accurate. In this way the Bureau would not be furnishing any information to a newspaperman direct; nevertheless, we would be insured that Carey, if he can be trusted, would furnish information of such a nature that it would not embarrass the Bureau. My feeling is that if Carey has furnished him with the incidents involving the contacts of Lee Pressman with the Communists that it would be much better if it were used without attribution and without involving the Bureau.

✓
I suggest Course #1

2 I concur. Both of the Alsops are foul balls. They didn't contact us when they found the ODD stuff so now when they need something they profess high newspaper ethics. They wouldn't be fair anyway so just shaft them. H. J. C.

LBN:MP

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : The Director

FROM : D. M. Ladd

DATE: January 15, 1947

SUBJECT: ALSOP COLUMN OF JANUARY 12
IN WASHINGTON POST

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Beahm
Miss Gandy

The Alsop brothers in their column "Matter of Fact", in the Washington Post for January 12, 1947, carried a story of a case in which the American Military Attache in a Latin American country during the war received extensive false information from a local informant. The column continued that eventually it was necessary for the FBI to assign its best men to a sabotage matter, falsely reported by the informant, and that the matter was cleaned up when, over the protest of the Military Attache, FBI Agents had a talk with the Attache's native informant who admitted that he was fabricating the information. You directed that this case be identified.

As nearly as can be determined there is no such case as that described in the Alsop column. There is no recollection of any SIS case in which Agents obtained outright admission from an informant of any Military Attache that he had been furnishing false information. On the other hand there are many cases, particularly in SIS, where information received by Military Attaches, or Embassy Officials, was subsequently proved to be false after investigation by SIS personnel. The most glaring instance of false information, or at best misleading information, being received by Military Attaches occurred in Colombia, Cuba, Mexico and Argentina. None of these instances fit the combination of facts in the Alsop column. Spruille Braden was Ambassador in Colombia when he had difficulties with the Military Attache there, to a certain extent revolving around information received by the Military Attache. It was also Braden who had trouble in Cuba with the Military as well as the Naval Attache largely over the matter of false reports received by them.

In Argentina, as early as 1940, information was received from an informant named [redacted] by a career Vice Consul in the American Embassy. This information, all spurious, was made to appear that it had its origin in the American Embassy in Lima, Peru. Special Agent Heber M. Clegg went to Peru at the request of then Ambassador Henry Norweb, conducted an investigation, and it was eventually established that [redacted] had been furnishing this false information. It does not appear that the Military Attache was involved in this instance.

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57 JAN 29 1947

NOV 22 1961

Matter of Fact

G-2 Ready to Fight for Its Life

By Joseph and Stewart Alsop

A HOT battle on the future of the American secret intelligence effort is shaping up behind the scenes. The Central Intelligence Group, headed by Gen. Hoyt Vandenberg, is fighting for an effective centralized intelligence effort, while the War Department's intelligence section, G-2, has its knife out for the Central Intelligence Group. When Congress gets around to considering legislation on the subject, tempers can be expected to reach the boiling point.

What the fight is all about can perhaps be best examined in terms of an incident which took place in a South American country during the war. The central figure was the embassy military attache, a pleasant fellow, who enjoyed bridge and dancing, spoke no Spanish and had no experience whatsoever in intelligence work. His life was agreeable enough until Washington began to make it miserable with strong demands to deliver some intelligence. The officer was therefore delighted when a plausible native approached him and offered to pass on hot tips at \$20 a throw.

One of the first items thus sold was to the effect that a dozen pro-Axis Spaniards had been planted as sabotage agents in certain key American defense plants. Joyfully the officer flashed this news back to the Pentagon. The FBI assigned its best men, and upwards of a quarter of a million dollars, to the case, with absolutely no results. Finally the embassy was asked to check the source.

Over the protests of the attache, a couple of FBI men had a heart to heart talk with the native. A quarter of an hour later he was tearfully admitting that he had thought the whole thing up one sleepless night. He had no other regular source of income, and the tips came in handy.

Germans Guilty, Too

THE MORAL of this little tale is obvious. Secret intelligence is not a job for amateurs, however zealous and well-intentioned. Another moral can be found in a recent book by Sir Samuel Hoare, a former British secret service chief, on the German intelligence efforts in the war, or in the report of the Royal Commission on the Canadian spy case.

Both the Germans during the war, and the Russians now, have used duplicating and competing intelligence nets. The German nets constantly showed each other up, and, as the Canadian report makes clear, the Russian military intelligence net and the NKVD net are always getting into each others' false whiskers.

A third moral is available from the American experience during the war. Because competing intelligence systems consistently clasped the information

which they collected to their respective bosoms, valuable information repeatedly failed to reach the place where it would do the most good.

It is with these three morals in mind that a bill has now been drawn up and is being studied by the President's legal aide, Clark Clifford. It proposes an American intelligence system which is permanent and professional, in which the entire intelligence effort is responsive to one authority and which will end compartmentalization.

No Ladies' Aid

THE INTENTION is to build an intelligence system based broadly on the model of the remarkably successful British Secret Intelligence Service. It is distinctly the intention to avoid the kind of intelligence system this country had before the war, when the lady secretaries in the Army's G-2, because they alone were permanently assigned, completely dominated the organization.

The British model will not be slavishly imitated. Indeed, it cannot be. British SIS is able to operate independently because it has important investments in a number of British industries, and it can thus operate on a secret income. Since the United States Treasury is unlikely to buy the American organization a controlling interest in Standard Oil, some other way to conceal the intelligence budget must be found.

Again, there is no intention of allowing the American organization the same independence and power which the British enjoy and occasionally abuse. The American organization will be firmly under the control not only of the President but of the departments of State, War and Navy.

First Round Fired

YET, WITH this qualification, it is recognized that the British centralization of authority in large part accounts for the effectiveness of their intelligence work. If a British military, naval or air attache attempts to invade the field of secret intelligence to set up a net of his own, he is immediately and smartly slapped down.

A similar recognition of authority is essential for an effective American secret service. But it will not be achieved without a struggle. In the recent House Military Affairs report, written by a former G-2 Colonel, G-2 has already joined battle. When the proposed legislation comes up before the House, G-2 can be expected to bring up its heaviest guns.

It is to be hoped that these guns will be spiked. For nothing is more obvious in the present sad state of the world than the need for a professional American intelligence service. And nothing is more obvious than that the military men in the Pentagon, whatever else their virtues, cannot supply it.

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Egan _____
Mr. Gurnea _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Jones _____
Mr. Pennington _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

There enters Clifford again!

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Can we identify this case?

JAN 12 1947

WASHINGTON POST
Page 5-B

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Bottom of page

Notation: Editor & Publisher of wall as NY Office
advise that his highest official of State. We have
now little contact with him & Ogden Reid is dead.

Side of page Notation Reads: We did not investigate but
did make name checks. State Dept. investigated.

August 21, 1947

100-354477-X13

RECORDED 100-354477-3146-7

PR-100

Mr. Buel F. Weare
Chief Editorial Executive
New York Herald Tribune Syndicate
230 West 41st Street
New York 18, New York

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/21/89 BY 808157714

Dear Mr. Weare:

Ordinarily I disregard the attempts that are made to smear the Federal Bureau of Investigation because in most instances these attempts come from persons having some ulterior motive, and increasingly I have observed widespread misrepresentations appearing in some segments of the press, which I know to be Communistically inspired. When a column, however, written by supposedly responsible columnists such as the Alsop brothers so patently misrepresents the activities of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, then I feel obligated to protest against an obvious attempt to distort and misrepresent the work of the FBI. Thus, I am writing to you regarding the Alsop column which appeared in the Washington Post on Friday, August 15, entitled "The Case of the Ten."

After recounting the recent dismissal of ten individuals by the State Department on the grounds of disloyalty, the Alsops conclude their column with the statement, "If every independent minded man in the government is to be haunted by fears of J. Edgar Hoover's eager hawkshaws lurking under his desk, the already too evident trend toward Government-by-drones is sure to be vastly accelerated." The obvious implication of the conclusion of this column was that the Federal Bureau of Investigation was responsible for the action of the State Department and certainly does not correctly reflect favorably or honestly upon the FBI.

In the first place, the Federal Bureau of Investigation is strictly a fact finding agency. It does not take action based upon its facts and in cases involving Federal employees the FBI does not even attempt to evaluate the results of its investigation. That is the function of the responsible officials of the agency involved. In the case of the ten persons dismissed by the State Department, the FBI did not even conduct the investigation upon which the dismissal action was predicated. This was conducted by the State Department's own investigative officials.

This column, coming on the eve of the President's program designed to insure loyalty in the Federal service, which was inaugurated on Monday, August 18, could have no other effect than

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Gurnea
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Pennington
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Tele. Room
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Beahm
- Miss Gandy

we did not investigate
that did make name checks
State Dept. investigated

Editor, Publisher as well as NY Office
Nease is highest official of State
had little contact with him + Ogden Reid is dead.

Mr. Buel F. Neare

to create distrust of the FBI, and since the FBI had nothing to do with the investigation involved and since the action taken by the State Department was the responsibility of that organization, I feel that it was not only unwarranted for the Alsops to conclude their column as they did, but that their statements are absolutely without foundation in fact.

I also recall that on August 13, the Alsops in another column, "Palmeritis Again," made numerous snide and indirect remarks designed obviously to convey a feeling of distrust on the part of the FBI. In this column the Alsops referred to a grand jury investigation in New York and concluded that the "prime mover behind the investigation is J. Edgar Hoover's FBI. If you will note, a grand jury investigation is an action initiated by prosecuting officials, and while we have declined all comment upon the New York grand jury inquiry for obvious reasons, nevertheless in this and in other cases wherein grand juries are involved the results of our investigations are submitted to Departmental attorneys, who decide whether or not the facts are to be presented to a grand jury.

In the August 13 column the Alsops state, "The FBI has already overreached itself on one occasion, in the Amerasia case." In that case the FBI was directed by the Attorney General to investigate the unlawful withdrawing of confidential documents from the State Department. This investigation was made at the request of the Secretary of State. The results of the investigation were submitted to Departmental attorneys, who issued instructions that warrants were to be secured against all individuals who subsequently were arrested. Thus, I do not see how in honesty the Alsops can charge the FBI with having "overreached itself," even though all of the persons arrested were not indicted.

The unfair attempts of the Alsops are so obviously a smear against the FBI that I felt compelled to call this to your attention in protest against what I consider most unfair and unwarranted treatment. I might add that in neither instance did the Alsops communicate with the Bureau prior to writing their column to inquire as to the FBI's participation.

With best wishes and kind regards,

Sincerely yours,

(s) J. Edgar Hoover
Mailed by the Director

Matter of Fact

By Joseph and Stewart Alsop

Palmeritis Again?

IT IS TIME for Americans to brace themselves against another attack of the kind of hysteria which swept this country during the unlovely A. Mitchell Palmer era. That fact is underlined by reports reaching Washington of something that is going on in New York.

According to reliable reports an important grand jury investigation is in progress there. Prime mover behind the investigation is J. Edgar Hoover's FBI. The investigation is concerned with the relationship between certain American citizens, including public officials, and the Soviet Union. It is being conducted in conditions of the utmost secrecy. This much is known.

Because of the curtain of secrecy, the rest is speculation. But it is believed possible that the investigation may result in the American equivalent of the Canadian espionage base.

Indeed, according to one version, Igor Gouzenko, the Soviet code clerk who spilled the Soviet beans in Canada, at the same time started the FBI on the trail here. According to this version, when Gouzenko gave his startling testimony to the Canadian police, he also implicated certain Americans including Treasury officials. The Canadian authorities did not publish these revelations, but quietly passed the word to Washington. One report has it that at least one of the American officials involved served in wartime not far below the top level.

No one doubts that such investigations must be made. Indeed, they are essential. If there are Americans who, like the handful of pro-Communist scientists and politicians in Canada, were willing to work against their country for the Soviet Union, the facts must be known, and on the basis of the facts, calm and effective action must be taken, as it was taken in Canada.

IT IS QUITE possible that nothing on the scale of the Canadian revelations will result, and that the whole matter will peter out. The FBI has already overreached itself on one occasion, in the Amerasia case. Then it was clearly established that confidential documents had indeed been leaked. But Jack Service, the State Department officer involved, was completely cleared. Yet if something really sensational does emerge from the current investigation, it is fervently hoped by observers of the political atmosphere here that the American people will recognize an isolated incident for what it is, and keep their sense of proportion.

For the grim contest with the Soviet Union in which this country is now engaged has faced the American Government with an immensely difficult problem. That is the relationship between

the personal rights of those Americans who work for the Government and the maximum security for the Government. This dangerous problem will not be successfully solved if the results of the current investigation lead to an atmosphere of national hysteria.

The issue has, of course, already squarely confronted the Government. The Atomic Energy Commission, the most "security-sensitive" spot in the Government, has quietly dismissed a number of employees believed to have an ideological sympathy with the Soviet Union. The State Department, only less sensitive than the Atomic Energy Commission, some weeks ago also less quietly dismissed 10 of its employees on the same grounds. A forthcoming report in this space on these dismissals will serve to illustrate the grave dangers inherent in the issue.

THE BEST example of how not to deal with the problem was presented by the House-passed Rees loyalty bill. That bill provides for star-chamber proceedings against any Govern-

employee on the basis of "satisfactory information," a phrase which its sponsors failed to define. Such level-headed conservatives as Sam Hobbs of Alabama instantly labeled the bill a monstrosity, and fought it.

The debate on the bill was a disturbing spectacle. The leader of the fight against it was the brilliant Estes Kefauver of Tennessee. Again and again Kefauver would rise to his feet, and calmly but cogently attack the more outrageous provisions of the bill. No serious attempt was made to answer Kefauver's charges. Again and again, laughing and gossiping, the members of the House would rise, in majorities of three or four to one, to vote down Kefauver's objections. The Rees bill never reached the Senate. But an 11 million dollar appropriation for loyalty investigations was passed by both Houses. Fears are widespread that the Congress will demand a really impressive box-score, come what may, for its money.

This sort of thing, and such nauseating exhibitions as the attack in the Senate on David E. Lillenthal as a "Communist," have led to the most serious misgivings. No sensible man, in view of the implications of the Canadian case, believes that the ideological sympathies of Government workers in key spots can lightly be laughed off. But no sensible man believes that anything can be achieved by hounding American citizens, or by allowing American concepts of justice to degenerate to those of a Bulgarian people's court. That is why such profound concern is felt here, over what the national reaction may be if the more sensational reports of what is going on in New York prove true.

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

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DATE 1-21-89 BY 8813/STJ

Taken from
Washington Post
Aug. 13, 1947

RECORDED

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The usual Alsop-Hamer
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Matter Of Fact

By Joseph And Stewart Alsop

The Case Of The Ten

THE SPOTLIGHT of attention may soon shift to one of the most complex and dangerous issues facing the American Government today—the issue of total security as against the civil rights of the individual. This will happen if, as now seems possible, a number of the 10 employees of the State Department, dismissed on grounds of “disloyalty” a few weeks ago, decide publicly to challenge the department on the issue.

These 10 people, none of them of top policy-making rank, and most of them well down the bureaucratic ladder, all received on the afternoon of June 26 the same mimeographed communication. They were curtly notified that, pursuant to the McCarran amendment to the State Department appropriation, which provided for the summary dismissal of any employees suspected of disloyalty, their services were terminated “with prejudice”, as of that afternoon. Their names were not published. But a State Department press release announced their dismissals, and accused them of “indirect association with representatives of a foreign power.” In the public mind, they were identified, however anonymously, as something close to traitors.

Most of the 10 immediately inquired of their superiors as to the cause of their dismissal, asking for the evidence on which it was based. This was not forthcoming. It was at first made apparent that there could be no appeal from the decision. Since then, in response to pressure both from inside and outside the department, a three-man loyalty board to review these and subsequent cases has been established.

TWO OR THREE of the 10 no doubt had very clear ideas of why they were dismissed. But unless some singularly masterful deception is under way, most of the others are sincerely mystified by the whole affair. One man, for example, can explain why the ax fell on him only in terms of the fact that he attended a few left-wing meetings in college days, out of curiosity. Another was the friend of a friend of a man who had fought with the Loyalists in the Spanish Civil War. Another somehow got on the mailing list of a left-wing bookstore. One man had once served as a technician on the staff of a professor known to be well to the left of center. And so on.

The suspicion inevitably arises that certain subordinate officials of the State Department, harking to congressional cries for Communist blood, decided that a respectable number of heads must be served up on a platter. This theory gains plausibility from the fact that at least two of the purgees were already on terminal leave from the department, and were recalled only for the purpose of dismissing them.

Since these two individuals were not expected to return to work in the department under any circumstances, it is certainly possible that they were dismissed only to add to the department's box score.

No doubt it was assumed that the fact that no names were published would protect those dismissed. However, it has not worked out that way. In the first place, their fellow employees of course knew why they left the department, so suddenly, and Washington is more addicted to gossip than Hog Corners. In the second place, employers have a habit of asking for references, and for reasons for leaving former employment. This fact has already stood between at least one of the 10 and a desirable position. Even those who have found new jobs live in constant fear of losing them if their employers discover why they left the State Department. A number of the 10 have been unable to find jobs, and are reported living on the charity of friends and sympathizers.

SOME OF THE ten purgees are doing what they can to get themselves reinstated, so that they may resign honorably. Failing that, there is at least a fair chance that one or two may decide to become the Dreyfuses in the case, and appeal directly to public opinion through the Civil Liberties Union. Such a public airing of the whole matter might indeed be a useful purpose. For the issue involved is one of the gravest with which the American Government is faced.

After the Canadian espionage case, which proved beyond any doubt that the Soviet Union used members of the Communist Party as espionage agents against their native country, the State Department would be plain fatuous not to exclude rigorously any person believed to be pro-Communist. But an ideological attitude is something virtually impossible to prove by any known rules of evidence.

Therefore the Government must have some means of ridding itself of those who may only be suspected on reasonably solid grounds of pro-communism. Yet, as the case of the 10 seems clearly to indicate, this may work the harshest kind of injustice on individual Government employees. It is a kind of injustice, moreover, which strikes very close to the heart of American civil liberties. One proposal is that those against whom some valid grounds for suspicion exist should merely be allowed honorably to resign from Government service. At any rate, some reasonable solution must be found. If every independent-minded man in the Government is to be haunted by fears of J. Edgar Hoover's eager hawks lurking under his desk, the already too evident trend toward Government-by-drones is sure to be vastly accelerated.

100-354477-X13
Washington Post
Washington, D. C.
August 15, 1947

Home Edition

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Tolson ✓
 FROM : L. B. Nichols
 SUBJECT:

DATE: 8-14-47

Tolson	✓
E. A. Tamm	✓
Clegg	✓
Glavin	✓
Ladd	✓
Nichols	✓
Rosen	✓
Tracy	✓
Harbo	✓
Hendon	✓
Pennington	✓
Quinn Tamm	✓
Nease	✓
Miss Gandy	✓

For record purposes, with reference to the Alsop column in the Post on August 13th, we have had numerous telephone calls from Washington and out of town correspondents. I instructed the New York Office to "no comment" it and we have "no commented" it here. Nelson Frank and Fred Woltman of the New York World Telegram called. They wondered whether a story they had secured would hurt us. They stated the substance of their story had to do with the Grand Jury. I told them we could make no comment; that, of course, we would prefer in every pending case for there to be no publicity.

Attachment

LBN:MP

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
 DATE 11/15/84 BY 9145(DMS)

241,813

RECORDED

INDEXED

36 AUG 19 1947

22 SEP 4 1947

CEIM 11/10/48

INV 22 1961 man

Matter Of Fact

By Joseph and Stewar. Alsop

Palmeritis Again?

IT IS TIME for Americans to brace themselves against another attack of the kind of hysteria which swept this country during the unlovely A. Mitchell Palmer era. That fact is underlined by reports reaching Washington of something that is going on in New York.

According to reliable reports an important grand jury investigation is in progress there. Prime mover behind the investigation is J. Edgar Hoover's FBI. The investigation is concerned with the relationship between certain American citizens, including public officials, and the Soviet Union. It is being conducted in conditions of the utmost secrecy. This much is known.

Because of the curtain of secrecy, the rest is speculation. But it is believed possible that the investigation may result in the American equivalent of the Canadian espionage case.

Indeed, according to one version, Igor Gouzenko, the Soviet code clerk who spilled the Soviet beans in Canada, at the same time started the FBI on the trail here. According to this version, when Gouzenko gave his startling testimony to the Canadian police, he also implicated certain Americans including Treasury officials. The Canadian authorities did not publish these revelations, but quietly passed the word to Washington. One report has it that at least one of the American officials involved served in wartime not far below the top level.

No one doubts that such investigations must be made. Indeed, they are essential. If there are Americans who, like the handful of pro-Communist scientists and politicians in Canada, were willing to work against their country for the Soviet Union, the facts must be known, and on the basis of the facts, calm and effective action must be taken, as it was taken in Canada.

IT IS QUITE possible that nothing on the scale of the Canadian revelations will result, and that the whole matter will peter out. The FBI has already overreached itself on one occasion, in the Amerasia case. Then it was clearly established that confidential documents had indeed been leaked. But Jack Service, the State Department official involved, was completely cleared. Yet if something really sensational does emerge from the current investigation, it is fervently hoped by observers of the po-

litical atmosphere here that the American people will recognize an isolated incident for what it is, and keep their sense of proportion.

For the grim contest with the Soviet Union in which this country is now engaged has faced the American Government with an immensely difficult problem. That is the relationship between the personal rights of those Americans who work for the Government and the maximum security for the Government. This dangerous problem will not be successfully solved if the results of the current investigation lead to an atmosphere of national hysteria.

The issue has, of course, already squarely confronted the Government. The Atomic Energy Commission, the most "security-sensitive" spot in the Government, has quietly dismissed a number of employees believed to have an ideological sympathy with the Soviet Union. The State Department, only less sensitive than the Atomic Energy Commission, some weeks ago also less quietly dismissed 10 of its employees on the same grounds. A forthcoming report in this space on these dismissals will serve to illustrate the grave dangers inherent in the issue.

THE BEST example of how not to deal with the problem was presented by the House-passed Rees loyalty bill. That bill provides for star-chamber proceedings against any Government employe on the basis of "derogatory information," a phrase which its sponsors failed to define. Such level-headed conservatives as Sam Hobbs of Alabama instantly labeled the bill a monstrosity and fought it.

The debate on the bill was a disturbing spectacle. The leader of the fight against it was the brilliant Estes Kefauver of Tennessee. Again and again Kefauver would rise to his feet, and calmly but cogently attack the more outrageous provisions of the bill. No serious attempt was made to answer Kefauver's charges. Again and again, laughing and gossiping, the members of the House would rise, in majorities of three or four to one, to vote down Kefauver's objections. The Rees bill never

reached the Senate. But a \$1 million dollar appropriation for loyalty investigations was passed by both Houses. Fears are widespread that the Congress will demand a really impressive box-score, come what may, for its money.

This sort of thing, and such nauseating exhibitions as the attack in the Senate on David E. Lilienthal as a "Communist," have led to the most serious misgivings. No sensible man, in view of the implications of the Canadian case, believes that the ideological sympathies of Government workers in key spots can lightly be laughed off. But no sensible man believes that anything can be achieved by hounding American citizens, or by allowing American concepts of justice to degenerate to those of a Bulgarian people's court. That is why such profound concern is felt here, over what the national reaction may be if the more sensational reports of what is going on in New York prove true.

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Egan _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Pennington _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

ENCLOSURE

100-354477-X14

RECORDED

INDEXED

WASHINGTON POST

Page _____

11/15/84 9:45/DMS
241,813

NEW YORK
Herald Tribune

European Edition
Published Daily and Sunday in Paris

August 25, 1947

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9-21-89 BY SP-8 D7 J108

Mr. Tolson.....
E. A. Tamm.....
Clegg.....
Mr. Glavin.....
Mr. Ladd.....
Mr. Nichols.....
Mr. Rosen.....
Mr. Tracy.....
230 West 41st Street
New York 18
Mr. Gurnea.....
Mr. Harbo.....
Mr. Mohr.....
Mr. Pennington.....
Mr. Quinn Tamm.....
Mr. Nease.....
Miss Gandy.....

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover,

Thank you for your letter of
August 21st about Joseph and Stewart Alsop's
column. I am discussing this matter with Joseph
and Stewart Alsop and will write you further
within a few days.

Sincerely,

NEW YORK HERALD TRIBUNE SYNDICATE

Buel F. Weare
Buel F. Weare
Manager

BFW/FS

RECORDED

EX-37 INDEXED

1091

OCT 14 1947

300P20 1947

JOSEPH AND STEWART ALSOP

108 C Street, N.W.
Washington 1, D.C.

Telephone
District 3578

August 27, 1947

J. Edgar Hoover, Esq.
Chief, Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Buel Weare has forwarded to us your interesting letter of August 21st, which my brother and I have read with care. In future, when you have any complaint or comment concerning our work, please feel free to write directly to us. We shall always be glad to hear from you, and it saves time.

In the present case, my brother and I are unable to agree with your letter. I see no purpose, however, in debating these matters by mail. Unfortunately, I leave Washington for Europe on Thursday, but, if you would like to discuss the matter with my brother, Stewart, he can be reached at our office.

I think there is nothing further I need add, except on one point. You blame us for failing to discuss the civil liberties issue with you before writing about it. You may not be aware of it, but we attempted to consult you on a previous occasion on another matter of considerable importance. We were then informed that you never saw any member of the press. While I have never resented any public man's inability to see me, I must confess I greatly dislike being taken for a fool. Since we were not anxious to repeat this experience, my brother and I decided against any further request for an interview with you.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 9/21/89 BY 8883131-88

JA:ec

Sincerely,

JOSEPH ALSOP

cc: Buel Weare, Esq.
New York Herald Tribune Syndicate

RECORDED

32 101 111

Mr. Tolson.....
Mr. E. A. Tamm.....
Mr. Clegg.....
Mr. Glavin.....
Mr. Ladd.....
Mr. Nichols.....
Mr. Rosen.....
Mr. Tracy.....
Mr. Egan.....
Mr. Gurnea.....
Mr. Harbo.....
Mr. Mohr.....
Mr. Pennington.....
Mr. Quinn Tamm.....
Mr. Nease.....
Miss Gandy.....

ack to Stewart Alsop
829-47
A

CRIM. DIV.

August 29, 1947

Mr. Buel F. Weare
Chief Editorial Executive
New York Herald Tribune Syndicate
230 West 41st Street
New York 18, New York

Dear Mr. Weare:

With further reference to my letter of August 21st I am now in receipt of a communication from Mr. Joseph Alsop dated August 27th, a copy of which I note has been furnished you. In this connection I am enclosing a copy of a communication I am directing to Mr. Stewart Alsop today.

Very frankly, Mr. Alsop's letter was no surprise to me. I was surprised, however, by his failure to present facts to justify his position. The fact of the matter is that he is not in a position to do this and must dodge behind the subterfuge of saying that he is "unable to agree." In fact the items in his column that I complained about are as correct as his version of the incident that occurred last December which I referred to in my letter to his brother. Had the subject of Mr. Alsop's inquiry been a matter that we could have discussed we certainly would have furnished the facts to any legitimate newspaperman who sought them. In this case, Mr. Alsop takes issue because I did not divulge confidential details in our files. I have not done this with other newspapermen and I see no justification in making an exception for him, although his inquiry was answered promptly at the time with the advice that I could not discuss this subject.

With best wishes and kind regards,

Sincerely yours,

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 9/21/89 BY 3033 JJA/af

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Mr. Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

MAILED

SEP 2 - 1947

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

RECORDED

INDEXED

EX-1

August 29, 1947

Mr. Stewart Alsop
108 C Street, Northwest
Washington 1, D. C.
100-354477-X16
Dear Mr. Alsop:

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/21/89 BY 28357 J/SP

Since your brother indicated in his letter of August 27th that he was departing for Europe, I am taking the liberty of acknowledging the letter to you. I wrote to Mr. Weare in the first instance because I thought that no point would be served in writing either your brother or you in view of the incorrect references that have been made to the FBI in your column in the past and to the veiled inferences which you have incorporated in your column. Since it appeared that neither your brother nor you were interested in checking with us for the facts it was quite obvious that it would be a waste of time to communicate with either of you. Since your brother indicates quite clearly in his letter that he was not interested in facts, there is no need in wasting any time in conferences.

There is, however, one statement that I feel constrained to answer. Your brother states that you "attempted to consult me on a previous occasion on another matter of considerable importance." I recall this occasion very well. As a matter of fact, you called my office on December 3, 1946. I was not in my office, nor was Assistant Director L. B. Nichols to whom the call would ordinarily have been transferred. Upon returning to his office, Mr. Nichols returned your call. At that time you outlined you were doing two articles for the Saturday Evening Post on the general subject of Communism and the CIO and that you wanted to confer with me for the purpose of checking an incident that was alleged to have occurred at the CIO Convention in 1943. At that time Mr. Nichols informed you that it was doubtful that I could make any comment on the matter in view of the confidential character of our files and that I had had many similar inquiries and had found it necessary to decline to discuss the matter outside official circles. You then inquired if arrangements could not be made for you to see me to explore the entire Communist situation.

That evening when I returned to the office Mr. Nichols

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

LBN:MP

MAILED 3

SEP 2 1947 P.M.

SEP 2 1947

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Beahm
Miss Gandy

OV 22 1991

Mr. Stewart Alsop

August 29, 1947

reported to me the details of your conversation with him. I told Mr. Nichols then that I, of course, could not discuss or comment upon your specific inquiry in view of the confidential character of our files, nor could I go into the subject of Communism any further than I had gone in connection with my public speeches, for which reason it would appear to be a waste of your time to endeavor to discuss the matter further.

I was not in my office on the morning of December 4th when you called. Mr. Nichols promptly returned your call conveying to you my decision. In the course of the conversation you stated your brother desired to speak to Mr. Nichols. He then came on the phone and stated he knew that I did talk to newspapermen. Mr. Nichols told him that he knew that I had not talked with newspapermen on the subject of Communism, which was a correct fact; that immediately after the Canadian spy case broke a very strict "no comment" policy had been adopted by the Bureau; that any number of very reputable reporters and newspapermen with considerable stature had approached me and that I simply had declined to furnish information either on or off the record.

The facts are that as a matter of policy I do not talk to newspapermen on confidential matters, nor do I confer with representatives of the press on matters wherein I cannot comment for publication. I am very happy to see members of the press when it is possible to do so on matters which I can discuss, but as you very well must know, official matters bearing on pending investigations, or matters pertaining to confidential details of our investigations can be released only by the Attorney General.

Very truly yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
Director

CC - Mr. Buel F. Weare
Chief Editorial Executive
New York Herald Tribune Syndicate
230 West 41st Street
New York 18, New York

LBN:MP

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum

~~SECRET~~

SEE REVERSE
SIDE FOR
CLASSIFICATION
GOVERNMENT

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

ECK:mjo

TO : MR. NICHOLS

DATE: September 2, 1947

FROM : M. A. JONES

SUBJECT: Joseph Wright Alsop, Jr.

Stewart Alsop

Coauthors of the syndicated column, "Matter of Fact"
Information Concerning

CLASSIFIED DECISIONS FINALIZED
BY DEPARTMENT REVIEW COMMITTEE (DRC)
DATE: 1/15/88

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Holmes
Miss Gandy

In order that full details on Joseph and Stewart Alsop as reflected by Bureau files will be readily available the following summary has been prepared:

I. Background data on Joseph Alsop.

(a) Birth, education and family:

Joseph, Jr., was born at Avon, Connecticut, on October 11, 1910. His father, Joseph, Sr., still resides in Connecticut and is a prominent insurance broker and farmer. Joseph, Jr., attended Groton School at Groton, Massachusetts, from 1923 to 1928. He then entered Harvard University and received an A.B. degree in 1932. (77-26619-6)

During the course of an investigation for the Office of Emergency Management in 1943, Ogden Reid, the publisher of the New York Herald Tribune, advised that he had known Alsop's father when they were both in college and had also known his mother for many years. He stated that Alsop's mother was the daughter of Douglas Robinson and that Mrs. Douglas Robinson was a sister of President Theodore Roosevelt. Both Joseph and his brother Stewart are cousins of Eleanor Roosevelt. (77-26619-7; page 2)

The editors of The Saturday Evening Post in a blurb preceding one of Alsop's articles stated that Alsop, who was then in his early thirties, had seen more of life and more of the world than his fellow Groton and Harvard graduates usually see in generations. The editors of The Post stated that Alsop rather scornfully rejected the more conventional careers that habitually absorb members of the Alsop and Roosevelt clans to take up journalism. (The Saturday Evening Post for January 2, 1943.)

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that a page of skunks act
suffering from mental &
literary halitosis.

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September 2, 1947

(b) Early journalistic endeavors:

During the course of the OEM investigation numerous editorial writers of the New York Herald Tribune were interviewed. It appears that Alsop joined the Herald Tribune as a cub reporter on leaving Harvard. The position was secured for him through his influential friends and family. He started at \$20 per week but within a year was working for \$75 per week and was considered one of the paper's star reporters. Harry Staton, the manager of the Herald Tribune Syndicate, described Alsop as one of the finest and brightest young men he had ever employed. (77-26619-7; page 3)

It should be noted that during the course of the above investigation nothing of a derogatory character was developed and all persons interviewed considered Alsop as a person of high character and extreme patriotism. (77-26619)

(c) Association with Robert Kintner:

Joseph Alsop and Robert Kintner, in the years before the war, wrote a Washington news column entitled "The Capitol Parade" and were under contract with The North American Newspaper Alliance from 1937 to 1940. This column was syndicated in about 90 newspapers. (77-26619-7)

In 1939 Alsop and Kintner wrote a book entitled "Men Around The President." This book purports to be an inside story of the growth of the brain trust in the New Deal. It is supposed to be a behind-the-scenes report of the activities involving Frankfurter, Corcoran, Landis, Tugwell, Wallace, et al. There is no reference in this book either to the Director or the FBI. (Bureau Library E-806-A462)

Joseph Alsop and Kintner were publishers of the famous "American White Paper." This glorified pamphlet was purported to give an inside story of our foreign policy prior to our entry into the war. It purported to set forth how American foreign policy was made and to show what American policy makers plan to do if the then

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Memorandum to Mr. Nichols

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September 2, 1947

Allies won the war, if the war ended in a stalemate; or if the Germans had victory in their grasp. The book was widely ballyhooed by Time Magazine, the Herald Tribune, Arthur Krock and Hugh Johnson. (94-4-4185, New York Times, May 3, 1940)

In 1941 Kintner and Joseph Alsop broke up and both of them joined the Service. At the time the two broke up, Kintner wrote a very nice letter to the Director and thanked him for all the kindness which had been shown him by the Director through the years. (94-8-24-130)

(d) War endeavors:

Following the break with Kintner, Joseph Alsop joined the United States Navy and was sent to India with the Intelligence Service as an Assistant Naval Observer. While in India Alsop became acquainted with and devoted to General Chennault and immediately resigned his commission and became Chennault's press representative with the American Volunteer Group in China. He was later captured by the Japanese at Hong Kong and was subsequently returned to the United States on exchange. This was in June of 1942. (77-26619-7)

In view of the fact that he returned on the S.S. Gripsholm, an investigation of his background and contacts was made. Nothing of a derogatory nature was developed. (100-129412-7)

Joseph Alsop immediately returned to China as Chief of a Lend Lease Mission and then became a Captain in the 14th Air Force and a member of the staff of General Chennault. (Who's Who in America - 1947)

(e) Activities since the war:

Since the war, Joseph and his brother, Stewart, have been writing a column entitled "Matter of Fact" which is syndicated through the New York Herald Tribune Syndicate. This column deals with all phases of the Washington scene, both domestic and international. (65-56402-2726)

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Memorandum to Mr. Nichols

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September 2, 1947

Our files reflect that Alsop spoke at a luncheon of the American Association For A Democratic Germany which organization is the subject of an Internal Security - C investigation. This was in November of 1946 and Joseph summed up the political conditions in Germany as he found them during a recent tour of duty in that country. He stated that Germany had become the central scene of a struggle between the free and the totalitarian type of life. He recommended that the policies of the Social Democratic Party in Germany should be supported. (100-17976-61)

Joseph Alsop is listed as a member of the Capitol City Forum, an alleged radical lecture group. The organization was a subject of inquiry by the Washington Field Office and the list of members included many individuals who were also members of other Communist front organizations. (100-26255-1; page 4)

II. Stewart Alsop

The Bureau files fail to reflect any background information on this individual. He is, of course, the brother of Joseph Alsop and apparently has the same heritage and background. Following the war, Stewart and one Lieutenant Thomas Braden wrote a book called "Sub Rosa." This book deals with the operations of OSS and in it Stewart states that he was a paratrooper with that organization. (Additional facts about this book will be set forth in Section III) (Library Book D-810- A462).

It is interesting to note that Lieutenant Thomas Braden is the brother of one David Braden who deserted from the United States Navy in 1941. David has been the subject of a deserter investigation for some years and the case is still pending. At one point in the investigation a lead was set out to interview Stewart Alsop by the office of origin but the Bureau interceded and the lead was canceled. Thomas Braden, however, has been very cooperative and has stated that he would help the Bureau in locating his brother. (42-8472)

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Memorandum to Mr. Nichols

September 2, 1947

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Stewart is listed as a member of the Americans United For Democratic Action which was founded in January of 1947 by Eleanor Roosevelt, her son, Franklin, Jr., and well-known liberals such as Leon Rosenberg, Elmer Davis and Walter Reuther. (100-348190-5)

In February of this year according to a notation appearing in the Alsop column, Stewart took a cruise of the Mediterranean area to write about conditions in Palestine, Iran and Greece. (100-340063-A, Washington Post, February 14, 1947)

III. Attacks on the Bureau.

Back in November of 1936, Joseph Alsop took a tour of the Bureau. (94-2-672)

The Joseph Alsop and Robert Kintner column for May 16, 1940, carried a rather peculiar comment concerning Attorney General Jackson and the Director. The column said that one of the minor phenomena in Washington was the sudden conversion of Attorney General Jackson to the Director. The column went on to say that when Jackson took office he was strongly prejudiced against the Director and that these prejudices were based on the "thoroughly silly cops-and-robbers mannerisms of the highly publicized G-Man." Continuing, the column stated that Jackson made a very careful investigation of the Bureau looking for wire tapping and secret files which the Director was supposed to have on public men. According to Alsop and Kintner, the search was fruitless because no secret files were found and the Director was on record opposing wire tapping. Jackson wanted an explanation of the Director's descent on crime in Miami and the arrest of Spanish Loyalists in Detroit. He found that Attorney General Murphy was behind both of these moves. The column concluded by saying, "thus only Hoover's mannerisms remained to complain of, and they could hardly be made the basis of serious charges." (94-2-24-100X3)

In December of 1940, Joseph Alsop called on Lawrence A. Smith of the Neutrality Laws Unit of the Department and said that at the Republican Convention in Philadelphia each delegate had received a copy of the Norristown Herald and the New York Enquirer, both of which contained write-ups on Representative Hamilton Fish, and also advertisements on the Committee to Keep America Out Of War. Smith proceeded to transmit this information to the Director in the form of a memorandum

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Memorandum to Mr. Nichols

September 2, 1947

and the Director's comment was "Ask Smith what he would suggest we do." A memorandum was submitted to Smith but we received no answer. (94-4-3997-2)

It is noted above under Section II that Stewart Alsop was the coauthor of the book, "Sub Rosa," which dealt with the activities of OSS. The book covers the development of the so-called Donovan Plan and points out that the chief opponents of it were the Army, Navy and the FBI; however, Stewart notes that these three Agencies were fully conscious of Donovan's close friendship with President Roosevelt and therefore a show-down never came. The book goes on to state that at a series of meetings between Donovan and the Chiefs of the Army and Navy Intelligence - "J. Edgar Hoover of FBI sulked conspicuously but refused to attend" - Donovan did not have to play his trump card which was, of course, his friendship with Roosevelt. Stewart Alsop stated that Donovan moved slowly and cautiously but that his methods were not entirely successful. The antagonisms which developed against him came from the Army and the Navy and probably resulted in McArthur's refusal to allow OSS to function in his command. The book continues, "The FBI was not satisfied either. Roosevelt later made it clear that OSS was to function in all countries outside the western hemisphere. The western hemisphere was to be the sole domain of the FBI. To the FBI that did not seem a large enough domain." (Bureau Library Book D810-A462)

The Joseph and Stewart Alsop column for April 30, 1946, is filled with vicious lies. It said that the Director was an able but ambitious man and that his one ambition was to "extend the empire of the FBI to include responsibility for foreign clandestine intelligence." The column stated that this would mean the amalgamation of what was left of the OSS with the FBI and could also mean that all of the experienced personnel would resign. They stated that the FBI would then be starting from scratch and did not have the cooperation of the British because "the FBI is by no means popular with the British." The reason back of this is based on the move by the FBI to force Colonel Ellis, who headed the British Secret Service in this country in the early years of the war, to leave. They continue their attack by saying that if the FBI adds to its present functions the responsibility for espionage we will have the same system as that employed in Germany, Japan, Spain and Russia. They state that it would be folly to suggest that the FBI would not use its powers in the same way that other secret service agencies have used theirs in totalitarian countries.

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Memorandum to Mr. Nichols

September 2, 1947

In this column they conclude by saying, "It was this precise reason that the forceful Edgar Hoover was excluded in the original Executive Order prepared by the Chiefs of State, War and Navy...from any participation in the Central Intelligence Agency..." (62-8075-A)

The Director immediately sent a memorandum to the Attorney General pointing out the obvious falsehoods in the column noted above and also that the authors of this item were formerly with OSS and obviously the material was planted by high officials in the Strategic Service Unit. (62-76274-278)

[It is interesting to note that Peter Dwyer, the British liaison man in Washington] immediately called the Bureau and told Mr. Mumford that he and his associates considered the Alsop column a "stinking, bloody lie." He expressed the opinion that this story could have been given out by OSS people. (62-76274-279)

On the day the column appeared, Assistant Director Ladd attended a meeting of the Central Intelligence Group at which time Colonel Cunningham as well as others present expressed the opinion that the Alsop column was a plant on the part of SSU in an effort to block any attempt to turn the Intelligence work over to the FBI. (62-80750-55)

On May 1, 1946, the Director sent a letter to Harry Staton, Editor of the New York Herald Tribune Syndicate, protesting the Alsop column and pointing out the lies which it contained. [redacted]

In their column of July 1, 1946, the two Alsops point out that the American Secret Service is finally reaching the formative stage. They state a "firm agreement has been reached by the CIG and the FBI that the CIG will be wholly responsible for foreign clandestine intelligence and counterespionage, while the FBI will limit its attentions exclusively to maintaining domestic security." The Director penned the following notation, "This pair of coyotes can't avoid taking a crack at us. They are blindly loyal to their old Alma Mater - -, my mistake OSS." (62-80750-104)

In December of 1946 Stewart Alsop called the Bureau and talked to you. He said he was doing an article on the Communists in the CIO for the Saturday Evening Post and wanted to check a story given by Jim Carey that at the

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Memorandum to Mr. Nichols

September 2, 1947

CIO Convention in 1943 there was a CP caucus and that the FBI knew all about it and had furnished information to anti-CP forces of the CIO. You told Stewart Alsop that you doubted if the Director could make a statement in this regard. You suggested to the Director that we stay clear of the whole matter. The Director concurred.
(94-4-3146-3)

The following day, which was December 4, 1946, you called Stewart Alsop and advised that the Director could not discuss the subject of Communism and the CIO. Stewart Alsop was very argumentative and said that he had some matters involving the FBI that he wanted to be fair about and therefore wanted to talk to the Director. At this point in the conversation, Joseph Alsop came to the phone and said, "You and I know that Mr. Hoover does talk to newspapermen." You told him the Director had not talked to newspapermen on Communist matters and Joseph retorted by saying that he had always been able to talk with high Government officials, including the President, on any serious problem. Again you suggested that we standpat and do nothing. The Director wrote, "I concur. Both the Alsops are foul balls. They didn't contact us when they wrote the OSS stuff so now when they need something they profess high newspaper ethics. They wouldn't be fair anyway so just skip them." (94-4-3146-4)

Along the same line it is interesting to note that back in 1939 Joseph Alsop called Mr. Tamm and wanted some information on German activities. Mr. Tolson later called Alsop and noted that he was a very peculiar person. He told Mr. Tolson that he did not deal with publicity men and therefore did not care to talk to Gordon Dean. Mr. Tolson thought perhaps that the Director might talk to Alsop. The Director said, "No, I can't talk to him, he must deal through Dean." (94-4-3146-1)

The article entitled "Will the CIO Shake the Communist Loose?" appeared in the February 22 and March 1, 1947, issues of the Saturday Evening Post. No reference to the FBI could be found.

In their January 12, 1947, column, the Alsop "boys" stated that G-2 was ready to fight for its life. In the course of the column they relate a story of a military attache in a South American country who was given a tip by a native (for \$20) that a dozen pro-Axis Spaniards had been planted as sabotage agents in certain key American defense plants. The military attache, according to the

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Memorandum to Mr. Nichols

September 2, 1947

Alsops, flashed this news back to the Pentagon and the "FBI assigned its best men, and gathered a quarter of a million dollars for the case, with absolutely no results." The story goes that a couple of FBI Agents then had a heart to heart talk with the native and he admitted he had dreamed it up for the money involved. The Director wanted to know what this was all about. We were unable to even come close to identifying this "fiction" in our files. (94-4-3146-5)

On August 13, 1947, the Alsop column went off on another tantrum entitled "Palmeritis Again?" They stated that Americans would have to brace themselves against another attack of hysteria which swept the country during "the unlovely A. Mitchell Palmer era." The column goes on to state that the Director is behind a very important grand jury investigation which is taking place in New York and that the investigation is concerned with the relationship between "certain American citizens, including public officials, and the Soviet Union." The column stated that it was quite possible that nothing on the scale of the Canadian revelations will result and that the whole matter will "peter out." The two "boys" claim in this column that the FBI has already overreached itself on one occasion and that that was in the Amerasia case. They hope that if something sensational does emerge from the current investigation that the American people will recognize it as an isolated incident and that they will keep their sense of proportion.

In this same column Alsops say that the best way not to deal with the problem is seen in the Rees Loyalty Bill. They said that this bill provides star-chamber proceedings based on "derogatory information," a phrase which the sponsors failed to define. (Washington Post for August 13, 1947)

In another very recent column the Alsops discuss what they call the issue of "total security as against the civil rights of the individual." They point to the recent dismissals from the State Department and claim that they were based on flimsy evidence. One man was dismissed because he attended a few left-wing meetings in his college days out of curiosity. Another man who was a friend of a friend of a man who had fought with the Loyalists in the Spanish Civil War was dismissed, and still another who somehow got on the mailing list of a left-wing book, got the ax.

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Memorandum to Mr. Nichols

September 2, 1947

They end up this column by stating as follows: "This is a kind of injustice, which strikes very close to the heart of American civil liberties. If every independent-minded man in the government is to be haunted by fears of J. Edgar Hoover's eager Hawkshaws lurking under his desk, the already too-evident trend toward government-by-drones is sure to be vastly accelerated."

The Director stated that we should write a vigorous letter to the Syndicate on this particular matter and accordingly on August 21, 1947, a letter was directed to Buehl F. Weare, the Chief Editorial Executive of the New York Herald Tribune Syndicate, protesting the type of allegations made by the Alsop boys. It is noted that the letter to Weare was turned over to Joseph Alsop and that he wrote a very sarcastic reply to the Director in which he stated he disagreed with what the Director had said but did not care to take issue. An appropriate reply was made to this letter.

[Handwritten signature]

~~SECRET~~

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR, FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

TO

OFFICIAL INDICATED BELOW BY CHECK MARK

☒ Mr. Tolson
☐ Mr. E. A. Tamm
☐ Mr. Clegg
☐ Mr. Glavin
☐ Mr. Ladd
☐ Mr. Nichols
☐ Mr. Rosen
☐ Mr. Tracy
☐ Mr. Gurnea
☐ Mr. Harbo
☐ Mr. Mohr
☐ Mr. Nease
☐ Miss Gandy

☐ See Me
☐ Note and Return
☐ For Your Recommendation
☐ What are the Facts?

Remarks:

Joseph Wright Altop - for
 Stewart Altop - for

100-354477-X19

94 X 3148 - 8
 14 X 3148 - 8

SEP 16 1947
 SEP 16 1947

EX-562
 EX-562

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
 DATE 12/18/89 BY 60325 JLP

Here is article
 2 page about
 I think we ought
 to write response
 letter to the Editor

TONE

EX-562

EX-562

EX-562

JOSEPH AND STEWART

Alsop

Civil Rights Principle Involved In State Department Dismissals

WASHINGTON—The spotlight of attention may soon shift to one of the most complex and dangerous issues facing the American government today—the issue of total security as against the civil rights of the individual.

This will happen if, as now seems possible, a number of the twenty employees of the State Department, dismissed on grounds of "disloyalty," decide publicly to challenge the department on the issue.

These people, none of them of top policy making rank, and most of them well down the bureaucratic ladder, all received the same mimeographed communication, ten on July 26, and the other ten last week.

They were curtly notified that, pursuant to the McCarran amendment to the State Department appropriation, which provided for the summary dismissal of any employee suspected of disloyalty, their services were terminated "with prejudice" as of that afternoon.

Their names were not published.

Most of the first ten immediately inquired of their superiors as to the cause of their dismissal, asking for the evidence on which it was based.

This was not forthcoming.

It was first made apparent that there could be no appeal from the decision.

Since then, in response to pressure both from inside and outside the department, a three-man loyalty board to review these and subsequent cases has been established.

Two or three of the ten no doubt had very clear ideas of why they were dismissed. But unless some singularly masterful deception is under way,

most of the others are sincerely mystified by the whole affair.

One man, for example, can explain why the ax fell on him only in terms of fact that he attended a few Left-wing meetings in college days, out of curiosity. Another was the friend of a friend of a man who had fought with the Loyalists in the Spanish Civil War. Another somehow got on the mailing list of a Left-wing bookstore. And so on.

The suspicion inevitably arises that certain subordinate officials of the State Department, obedient to Congressional cries for Communist blood, decided that a respectable number of heads must be served up on a platter.

This theory gains plausibility from the fact that at least two of the purgees were already on terminal leave from the department, and were recalled only for the purpose of dismissing them.

Since these two individuals were not expected to return to work in the department under any circumstances, it is certainly possible that they were dismissed only to add to the department's box score.

Some of the twenty purgees are doing what they can to be reinstated, so that they may resign honorably. Failing that, there is at least a fair chance that one or two may decide to become the Dreyfuses in the case, and appeal directly to public opinion through the Civil Liberties Union.

"This is a kind of injustice, which strikes very close to the heart of American civil liberties. If every independent-minded man in the government is to be haunted by fears of J. Edgar Hoover's eager Hawkshaws lurking under his desk, the already too-evident trend towards government-by-drones is sure to be vastly accelerated."

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/29/89 BY 2020377

ENCLOSURE

100-354477-1

94-11-3216

29 SEP 1947

EX-56

Date and page

MATTER OF FACT

By JOSEPH and STEWART ALSOP

Palmeritis Again?

WASHINGTON, Aug. 12.—It is time for Americans to brace themselves against another attack of the kind of hysteria which swept this country during the unlovely A. Mitchell Palmer era. That fact is underlined by reports reaching Washington of something that is going on in New York.

According to reliable reports, an important grand jury investigation is in progress there. Prime mover behind the investigation is J. Edgar Hoover's Federal Bureau of Investigation. The investigation is concerned with the relationship between certain American citizens, including public officials, and the Soviet Union. It is being conducted in conditions of the utmost secrecy. This much is known.

Because of the curtain of secrecy, the rest is speculation. But it is believed possible that the investigation may result in the American equivalent of the Canadian espionage case.

Indeed, according to one version, Igor Gouzenko, the Soviet code clerk who spilled the Soviet beans in Canada, at the same time started the R. E. L. on the trail here. According to this version, when Gouzenko gave his startling testimony to the Canadian police he also implicated certain Americans, including Treasury officials. The Canadian authorities did not publish these revelations, but quietly passed the word to Washington. One report has it that at least one of the American officials involved served in war time not far below the top level.

Calm Action Necessary

No one doubts that such investigations must be made. Indeed, they are essential. If there are Americans who, like the handful of Communist scientists and technicians in Canada, work against Soviet interests,

will not be successfully solved if the results of the current investigation lead to an atmosphere of national hysteria. The issue has, of course, already squarely confronted the government. The Atomic Energy Commission, the most "security-sensitive" spot in the government, has quietly dismissed a number of employees believed to have an ideological sympathy with the Soviet Union. The State Department, only less sensitive than the A. E. C., some weeks ago also less quietly dismissed ten of its employees on the same ground. A forthcoming report in this space on these dismissals will serve to illustrate the grave dangers inherent in the issue.

Recent Example in House

The best example of how not to deal with the problem was presented by the House-passed Rees loyalty bill. That bill provides for star-chamber proceedings against any government employee on the basis of "derogatory information," a phrase which its sponsors failed to define. Such level-headed conservatives as Sam Hobbs, of Alabama, instantly labeled the bill a monstrosity and fought it.

The debate on the bill was a disturbing spectacle. The leader of the fight against it was the brilliant Estes Kefauver, of Tennessee. Again and again Kefauver would kick his feet and calmly but attack the more outlandish provisions of the bill. No effort was made to answer his charges. Again and again the House

The Gregory Case

RECORDED

100-354477-X19

94 4 3146 8

EX-56

20

1947

3

CLIPPING FROM THE

N. Y.

Herald Tribune

DATED AUG 13 1947
FORWARDED BY N. Y. DIVISION

September 6, 1947

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/24/79 BY 2880 D 108

Mr. Buel T. Weare
Chief Editorial Executive
New York Herald Tribune Syndicate
230 West 41st Street
New York 18, New York

RECORDED

100-354477-X20

Dear Mr. Weare:

I have no inclination to draw out
the correspondence on the Alsops' column about
which I complained in my letter of August 21,
particularly since the exchange of corres-
pondence to date has not in any way cleared
up the erroneous impressions conveyed in
that column.

In the first place, a fact is a fact;
a statement in a column is either true or false.
If it is false then something should be done
to correct it; if it is true then anyone
challenging it should be entitled to the
proof, particularly when the person challenging
the item is the victim of a misstatement.
I do, nevertheless, appreciate your good
wishes.

Sincerely yours,

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

MAILED 5

SEP 12 1947 P.M.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

NOV 22 1961

NEW YORK
Herald Tribune

European Edition
Published Daily and Sunday in Paris

September 4, 1947

Mr. Tolson ✓
Mr. E. A. Tamm ✓
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols ✓
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
230 West 41st Street
New York 18
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover,

Thank you for your letter of August 29
and the letter of the same date which you sent
to Stewart Alsop. I am sure that this corres-
pondence will end in clearing up misunderstandings.

With all good wishes.

Sincerely,

NEW YORK HERALD TRIBUNE SYNDICATE

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/21/81 BY 085728

Buel F. Weare
Manager

RECORDED

52 OCT 11 1947

ack. 9/6/47
x 132

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Ladd *DL*

DATE: October 2, 1947

FROM : V. P. Keay *VPK*

SUBJECT: STEWART ALSOP

PREPARATION OF ARTICLE CRITICIZING DIRECTOR

Details:ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9-21-89 BY SP8BJL/ajg
100-334477-131

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. E. A. Tamm	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Carson	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Pennington	
Mr. Quinn Tamm	
Mr. Nease	
Mr. Boardman	
Mr. Gandy	

Mr. W. T. Golden, Assistant to AEC Commissioner Lewis L. Strauss on October 1, 1947, advised Special Agent R. W. Lawrence that Mr. Strauss had called Mr. Golden long distance and requested that the FBI be notified immediately that Mr. Strauss had heard from a reliable source that Stewart Alsop is presently preparing an article, either for the Saturday Evening Post or for the Washington Post, which article will be violently and bitterly critical of the Director. Mr. Golden had no other information concerning the nature of the article or the time when it would be published.

RECORDED

NOV 22 1961

ACTION: None. This is submitted for information purposes only.

32 OCT 4 1947 Mr. Ladd

G. I. R-2

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR

DATE: 10/3/47

FROM : CLYDE TOLSON

SUBJECT:

Joseph Alsop

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. E. A. Tamm	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Carson	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Pennington	
Mr. Quinn Tamm	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Holmes	
Miss Gandy	

Mr. Lawrence Richey, who is associated with Mr. Herbert Hoover, called me on October first stating that recently a rumor reached Mr. Hoover that the Alsops were writing a critical article concerning him for publication in the Saturday Evening Post. Mr. Richey checked on this rumor and found that the article was not to be about Herbert Hoover but about you. He further was advised through contacts with the Saturday Evening Post that the article was now "blocked out;" that the Saturday Evening Post would not handle it and it would not be published by that magazine.

In connection with this matter there is, of course, the possibility that the Alsops were turned down in trying to get this article published by the Saturday Evening Post but may go ahead with the preparation of the article with a view to its publication in some other magazine.

100-354477-X22

174-4-3116-17

E B I

15 OCT 4 1947

CT:DSS

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&
INDEXED

cc Mr. Nichols

50 OCT 15 1947

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12-8-89 BY 880731-28

RECORDED COPY FILED IN 74

November 21, 1947

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

DECLASSIFIED BY
ON

Mr. Stewart Alsop
108 C Street, N. W.
Washington 1, D. C.

Dear Mr. Alsop:

I have received your letter dated November 11, 1947, concerning the administrative action of the State Department in connection with certain of its employees.

My letter of August 21, 1947, complained about your columns of August 13 and 15. The major premise of your column of August 15, 1947, is summarized by your concluding sentence: "If every independent-minded man in the Government is to be haunted by fears of J. Edgar Hoover's eager hawks lurking under his desk, the already too evident trend toward Government-by-drones is sure to be vastly accelerated."

I denied your implication that the FBI was responsible for the action taken by the State Department in my letter of August 21, 1947. I stated that "the FBI did not even conduct the investigation upon which the dismissal action was predicated."

Since receiving your letter of November 11, I have re-checked on the matter and my statement of August 21, 1947, was correct. You will observe I did not state we had never investigated any of the employees dismissed, nor did I state we had not furnished information in our files secured in other investigations. The facts are that the State Department conducted its own investigation prior to the dismissal of the employees and consequently it is obvious that the administrative action of that Department was predicated upon the results of its own investigation.

As to the Bart Andrews story, the FBI did, in connection with an entirely different investigation, check on the activities of the person concerning whom he wrote. Andrews' version was undoubtedly based upon information furnished him by the person involved and much of the information

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 3
NOV 21 1947 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

DEC 12 15 38 PM '47
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NOV 22 1961
LBN:hmc

Mr. Stewart Alsop

furnished Mr. Andrews is inconsistent with the FBI's records; however, I am sure that Mr. Andrews wrote exactly what he was told.

As to the statement issued to the press by the State Department, the FBI did not approve or censure in the statement. For your information, at no time has the State Department requested advice from the FBI as to whether any of the material furnished by the FBI could be utilized in basing charges against any of those who were dismissed.

I trust this will fully answer the questions raised in your communication.

Very truly yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
Director

U S DEPT OF JUSTICE
FBI
RECEIVED-GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE
DEC 18 15 52 PM '64
MAIL ROOM

JOSEPH AND STEWART ALSOP

108 C Street, N.W.
Washington 1, D.C.

Telephone
District 3578

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/21/89 BY 88573/af

November 11, 1947

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I did not answer your letter of August 29th, since its contents seemed clearly to indicate the futility of further correspondence. In it, you repeated your charge that we were "not interested in the facts", and at the same time again refused our request for a personal interview. This request was clearly enough, it seems to me, motivated by a desire to get at the facts, rather than by purely social considerations.

Since that time, however, a point has arisen which I wish to clear up, since we shall undoubtedly be writing in future on the same general subject.

In your first letter, you stated categorically that "the FBI had nothing to do with the investigation involved." This was, I assure you, flatly contradictory to our information from what we had supposed to be wholly reliable sources. More recently, moreover, a number of newspaper stories, conspicuously a recent story by the Herald Tribune's Bert Andrews, have seemed to indicate quite clearly that the FBI was in fact involved in the investigation which led to the State Department discharges. According to the Andrews story, one of the men discharged was trailed for some weeks by your agents, and subsequently interrogated by them. Again, Secretary Marshall's recent press conference left little doubt that the FBI had provided information on which the discharges were based.

Since we are, contrary to your assumption, very much interested in the facts, and since this matter of loyalty is certain to be very much in the news in coming months, I should like to clear this point up. Were the Andrews and other recent newspaper stories inaccurate, or were you mistaken in your assertion that "the FBI had nothing to do with the investigation involved?"

Yours very sincerely,

Stewart Alsop
STEWART ALSOP

SA:cc

J. Edgar Hoover, Esq.
Chief, Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington 25, D.C.

RECORDED

34 DEC 6 1947

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Pennington	
Mr. Quinn Tamm	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

11-13-47
LBZ

11/24/47

TO : THE DIRECTOR
 FROM : Mr. E. A. Tamm
 SUBJECT :

DATE: November 20, 1947

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 9-21-89 BY 20885-1 J/K

All State Dept info unclassified per letter 8/13/91
 9803 RCO/mtt
 2-3-93

The attached memorandum from the Security Division contains summations of the contents of the State Department files on the ten employees who were dismissed by the State Department. The factors in the individual cases vary, but one fact stands out which, it is believed, is predominantly significant in this situation and particularly pertinent for the proposed letter to Alsop. The State Department did in each and every one of these cases conduct an independent investigation of the employee, which investigation in most instances, in so far as can be determined from the State Department files, included interviews with known associates, placing of mail covers, neighborhood investigation, check of the Un-American Activities Committee files, et cetera. These investigations in some instances and probably all, included contacts with police departments, credit bureaus, et cetera. In some of the files, the memorandum initiating the last investigation referred to the investigation as a loyalty investigation. In this regard, it should be pointed out that several of these persons had been the subjects of previous investigations by the State Department as "applicant cases." Despite these variations in the phraseology, the predominant fact remains that the State Department did in each case conduct an investigation for the most part of almost a year's duration leading up to the occasion on June 23rd when the ten employees were dismissed.

It would appear desirable, therefore, in answering Alsop's letter to avoid all of the fine distinction which we have been trying to draw between the persons upon which no name check was requested, those in which material in the Bureau files was furnished, those which grew out of another investigation, those in which a surveillance was or was not requested, et cetera, and to make the blunt statement to Alsop in the briefest possible form that the Bureau has determined that the State Department prior to the dismissal of these people conducted its own independent investigation with its own personnel, and that consequently, it is obvious that the State Department's administrative action was predicated upon the results of its own investigative inquiries.

This statement might be followed in the Alsop letter with an indication that if there were any errors, inequities, shortcomings, or omissions in the State Department's investigations, they are the responsibilities of the State Department and not of the FBI which, in the first place, had no responsibility for these investigations conducted by the State Department and, in the second place, was not furnished by the State Department with copies of the reports of their investigation prior to the time that they took administrative action against the employees.

EAT:edm

100-354477-X24

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NOV 22 1961

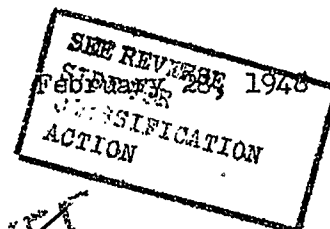
From an administrative viewpoint, it does not appear that the Washington Field Office or the New York Office was in violation of any administrative regulation in furnishing material directly to State Department representatives upon their request since the provisions of Bureau Bulletin N^o. 26 of June 2, 1943, authorized the Agents in Charge to furnish to the Federal agencies information informally "with the least possible expenditure of clerical and Agent time" but the Bulletin likewise pointed out that the desirability of requesting such information through the Washington Headquarters should be pointed out. It would appear at this time that it might be desirable to instruct the Washington Field Office not to furnish information to other Government agencies in Washington as a result of the check of the field office files because of the obvious danger of potential error in such procedure.

attachment

~~SECRET~~

SAC, Washington Field

Director, FBI



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OTHERWISE

ITEM REGARDING RUSSIAN DESERTIONS
JOSEPH AND STEWART ALSOP
Washington Post, February 15, 1948
ESPIONAGE - R

~~SECRET~~

Reference is made to your letter dated February 18, 1948, in which you recommend that the Bureau give consideration to making certain inquiries relative to defected Soviets in the American Zone of Germany with a view to sending Bureau personnel to Germany to obtain from such persons information of a counterintelligence nature.

Referral/Consult

As you know, interrogations of individuals in this category are within the jurisdiction of the Army, whose responsibility it is to furnish the Bureau information obtained through such interrogations of interest to the Bureau. Although the Bureau is dependent upon these agencies for such information and may not obtain it in every instance, the presence of Bureau personnel in the American Zone of Germany would probably not materially increase the Bureau's information in this regard because such personnel would still be dependent upon these agencies for channelizing the appropriate defectees to them for interviews. For that reason, the Bureau is giving no further consideration to your recommendation at this time.

S-1(5)

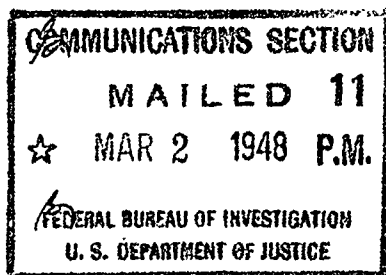
However, in view of your recommendation, the Bureau is again discussing this matter with the Army and again calling to their attention the Bureau's interest in intelligence information and requesting that interrogation reports containing information relating to Soviet espionage in all countries, and specifically in the United States, be furnished to us.

S-1(3)

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100-354477 - 1

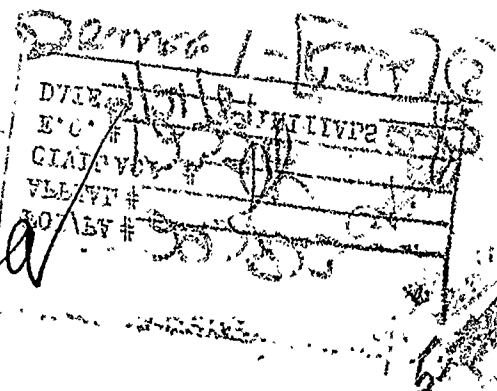
ETT:rb

Classified by 20328-75168
Declassify on: OADR



Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

~~SECRET~~



~~SECRET~~

MAR 6 1948

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

SEE REVERSE
SIDE
ACTION

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

DATE: February 18, 1948

FROM : GUY HOTTEL, SAC, WASHINGTON FIELD

SUBJECT: NEWS ITEM REGARDING RUSSIAN DESERTIONS
BY JOSEPH AND STEWART ALSOP, WASHINGTON
POST, FEBRUARY 15, 1948
ESPIONAGE - R

~~SECRET~~

Enclosed herewith is an article which appeared in the "Washington Post", dated February 15, 1948, entitled "U.S. 'Wasting' 5000 Desertions", from the column, "Matter of Fact", written by JOSEPH and STEWART ALSOP.

As will be noted, the authors pointed out that the few deserters from the Soviet system who have disclosed what they know about that system have been a matter of great public interest and, as we know, they have frequently supplied valuable information of a counter-intelligence nature. The writers go on to say that there are 5,000 such people in the American zone of Germany today whose value to the United States is not being properly exploited.

The article continues that in accordance with an agreement with the Soviets, these deserters are being returned to the Russian authorities. Even though the Army contemplates returning these deserters, it is assumed that through the proper cooperation of the Army, any of these individuals could be interviewed if there were Bureau Agents in Germany. It is also anticipated that Russian deserters would be almost unanimous in speaking freely to United States representatives when they were faced with being returned to the Russians.

Referral/Consult

It has been suggested that out of a group of 5,000 persons who would willingly talk, a great deal of information could be obtained. It is readily conceded that by far the largest percentage of this information would be of interest

However, from such a large group it is believed that there may be information of value to the United States of a counter-intelligence nature, particularly in view of the report that there are high Army and government officials among these deserters. Because of this, it is believed the matter warrants additional attention, nor should we lose sight of the fact that if such information is available and the Bureau does not attempt to obtain it, some other agency may interest itself in this matter. In actually interviewing these individuals some sort of a guide would be needed in order to select those persons who are most likely to have information of interest to the FBI.

Enclosure

VWH:JC
65-0

29 FEB 19 1948

~~SECRET~~

Classified by 22525
Declassify on: OADR

Director, FBI
RE: RUSSIAN DESERTIONS

~~SECRET~~

Referral/Consult

The AISOP brothers may have more specific information on S-1 (S) this matter which would be of value to the Bureau, [redacted] and MID may have already looked into this question and may be familiar with what it has to offer. Therefore, the recommendation is being made that a Bureau representative contact the AISOPS [redacted] and MID in order to get a better picture of this situation and to see if the Bureau would be warranted in sending its personnel to Germany in an effort to obtain information of value from these Russian deserters. S-1 (S)

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

Wash. Post 2-15-48

Matter of Fact

U. S. 'Wasting' 5000 Desertions

By Joseph and Stewart Alsop

KRAVCHENKO, Gousenko and the other well-publicized individual deserters from the Soviet system have evoked a fascinated interest in this country. But almost no interest has been aroused by the far more extraordinary fact that more than 5000 Russian officials, military officials and soldiers belonging to the Soviet military government and occupation forces in Germany, have deserted to the western zones in the past two years.

Evidently a single Kravchenko, if he writes a book, is capable of capturing the public imagination. Every one of these Russians who have fled from the Soviet zone has taken greater risks to find freedom than Kravchenko took. Nevertheless, the 5000 constitute too massive and incredible a phenomenon to make much impression.

The fact of these mass desertions from the Soviets, first reported in this space and not since disputed, also poses an important and curious issue of public policy. The issue can be stated very simply: Does the American tradition of welcoming political refugees still mean anything at all, or are those who choose freedom simply to be told to go back to slavery, without further ado?

U. S. Had Initial Stake

THE problem arises in connection with these Russian officers, officials and soldiers for a very curious reason. It is now the official rule of the American Military Government that these men must be returned to the dreadful justice of the Soviet secret police, if they are so unlucky as to be caught in our zone of Germany.

This rule arises from an agreement made, at the end of the war, between the Soviet and American commands in Germany. The agreement required each command to return deserters to the other. There was, at the time, some reason for the agreement, since a small number of American troops had been left behind in the part of the Soviet zone first occupied by our forces.

So far as is known, there was no reason at all for the infamous parallel agreement, that Russian prisoners of war and other Soviet citizens found by us in Germany would also be returned to the Soviet Union, even if they were unwilling to be repatriated.

But this agreement was also reached and enforced.

Long ago, when it became apparent that large numbers of Soviet officers and officials desired to desert to the west, a group within the American Military Government in Germany began to advocate jettisoning these agreements with the Soviets. The proposal was vetoed by Gen. Lucius D. Clay. The problem was then raised on a higher level in Washington, but abandonment of the exchange of

deserters agreement was again vetoed by Secretary of State Marshall. That is why the agreement is still in force.

Damming a Flood

THERE does not seem to be any very good reason why it should still be in force, except the inbred reluctance of military men to encourage desertion, even from the forces of the enemy. There are many excellent reasons on the contrary why the agreement should be jettisoned. The main one is that the present flow of deserters from the Soviets could be transformed into a flood by a change in the rules.

A wise German politician, intimately acquainted with the Soviet setup, remarked to one of these correspondents in Berlin: "Soviet headquarters would be deserted if your people would just offer any Russian crossing to your zone 40 acres of land and a mule in America." This pithy statement is confirmed by informed authorities in Washington.

A real flood of desertions from the Soviets in Germany would have two obvious results. In the first place, no more effective or more punishing device of psychological warfare could possibly be imagined. Russians in Germany have already had their dependents called home, and have been required to live in guarded barracks, in order to limit desertion to the western zones. The desertions continue.

If they swelled to a flood, the administration of the Soviet zone would certainly be part-paralyzed by the combined effects of universal mutual suspicion and stringently tightened security precautions. In the second place, those who have fled already have provided invaluable information about the inner workings of the Soviet system. The more who come over, the more will be learned.

Include Top Scientists

THE names of the more recent deserters are closely guarded, although it is known that they include at least one colonel general and many other personalities of equal importance. Certain names can be listed, however, of former German prisoners of war who have managed to elude the subsidiary exchange agreement.

A. Karpinsky, former professor of geology and hydrology at the Leningrad Mining Institute and a leading expert on Soviet mineral resources; K. G. Molodetsky, former director of the economic department of the Institute of Peoples of the North; L. N. Smirnov, former professor of petroleum geology at the Leningrad Institute, and V. Brailovsky, one of the first Soviet physicists to explore nuclear fission, are among the Russians now hidden in Germany. Surely men of this type, whether former prisoners of war or more recent escapees, should be brought to America under some relaxation of the immigration laws, to be formed into an Institute of Russian Studies.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9-21-89 BY 8825 JAL/MS

ENCLOSURE
100-354477-1
Washington Post
2-15-48

Office Memorandum

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

SEE REVERSE
SIDE
OVERNMENT
ACTION

TO : Mr. D. M. Ladd

DATE: February 28, 1948

FROM : J. P. Coyne

~~SECRET~~

SUBJECT: NEWS ITEM REGARDING RUSSIAN DESERTIONS
BY JOSEPH AND STEWART ALSOP
Washington Post, February 15, 1948
ESPIONAGE - R

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Holmes
Miss Gandy

There is attached a news article furnished by the Washington Field Office indicating that there are numerous deserters from the Soviet system in Germany in a position to supply valuable information of a counter-intelligence nature, who are not being properly exploited by the United States. There is also attached a letter from the Washington Field Office dated February 18, 1948, suggesting that Joseph and Stewart Alsop, authors of the article, be interviewed to determine whether the information in their possession would warrant sending Bureau personnel to Germany in an effort to obtain information of value from these Russian deserters.

It is not believed necessary nor desirable that the Bureau interview the Alsop brothers nor send Bureau personnel to Germany to interview defected Soviets.

Referral/Consult

After perusing such reports, the Bureau then can request, if desired, additional interrogations of the particular defectee.

ACTION:

It is recommended that the Liaison Section discuss in detail the attached newspaper clipping and letter from the Washington Field Office as outlined above.

There is attached for your approval a letter to the Washington Field Office setting forth the Bureau's action in this regard.

ETT:rb

100-354477

Attachment

Classified by DS-22-13
Declassify on: OADR EX-63

~~SECRET~~

60 MAY 4 1948

100-354477-1

12

PASSENGER DUE TO ARRIVE IN UNITED
STATES IN AUGUST 1942 FROM THE
FAR EAST ON THE S.S. GRIPSHOLM.

h
yft
Name(s) ⁰ ALSOP, Joseph Wright

Date and place of birth - 10/11/1910 - Avon, Conn.

Residence in U. S. - 2709 Dumbarton Ave., N.W.,
Washington, D. C.

Outside U. S. since June, 1941
Principally at or near India

Occupation Lieutenant, J.G.
Firm or Organization U.S.N.R.

Relatives of Friends Wife at above address
in U. S.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9-21-89 BY 282853/af

Accompanied by ----
Wife
Born at

on

Minor Children ----

Welfare Inquiries Made By

- 100-354477-✓
100-129412-✓
2-1001
1. Mrs. Joseph W. Alsop, Sr., Wood Ford Farm, Avon, Conn.,
(mother).
Mr. Osmund L. Varela, Ass't Treas., Nat'l Savings and
Trust Co., Fifteenth and New York Ave., N.W., Washington,
D. C.
Capt. Robert Kintner, Deputy Director, Office of Facts
and Figures, Library of Congress Annex, Washington, D. C.

APR 9 1957

DO-5

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Record of Telephone Call or Visitor

Mr. Stuart Alsop
called--phoned.

Phone No. _____

Hour 3:46pm Date Mar. 11, 19 48

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Egan _____
Mr. Gurnea _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Jones _____
Mr. Mohr _____
Mr. Pennington _____
Tele. Room _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Holmes _____
Miss Gandy _____

REMARKS

When informed Mr. Hoover was not in, Mr. Alsop consented to speak with Mr. Nichols. After checking the call was transferred to Mr. Nichols.

RECORDED

Mr. Nichols advises that Mr. Alsop told him that he had been criticized in the past by the Director for not checking information. He asked "how did the Un-American Activities Committee get the Director's letter, did the FBI give the letter out?" Mr. Nichols told him that the FBI did not give the letter out, that it would not give the letter out if the Secretary of Commerce asked us to, only if the Attorney General so directed. Mr. Alsop told Mr. Nichols that the Commerce Dept. said they did not give the letter. Mr. Nichols told him that he could not speak for the Commerce Dept. but the FBI did not give the letter out.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 9-22-89 BY 258153/afNOV 22 1961 *mmh*

~~SECRET~~

SEE REVERSE
SIDE FOR
GOVERNMENT
ACTION

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. D. M. LADD
FROM : Mr. V. P. Keay
SUBJECT: NEWS ITEM REGARDING RUSSIAN DESERTIONS
BY JOSEPH and STEWART ALSOP,
Washington Post, February 15, 1948;
ESPIONAGE - R

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

March 12, 1948

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN

OTHERWISE

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

Reference is made to Mr. Coyne's memorandum to you dated February 28, 1948, to which was attached a news article furnished by the Washington Field Office, indicating that there are numerous deserters from the Soviet system in Germany in a position to supply valuable information of a counterintelligence nature, who are not being properly exploited by the United States. The Washington Field Office letter dated February 18, 1948, suggested that Joseph and Stewart Alsop be interviewed for the purpose of determining whether or not the information in their possession would warrant sending Bureau personnel to Germany in an effort to obtain information of value from these Russian deserters.

Referral/Consult

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that this information be forwarded to the Internal Security Section for the attention of Supervisor Turner.

~~SECRET~~

JFD:KK
62 APR 5 1948

Classified by DP285TJ/28
Declassify on: OADR

5-28

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : THE DIRECTOR

DATE: March 16, 1946

FROM : E. A. TAMM

SUBJECT:

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. E. A. Tamm	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Carson	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Pennington	
Mr. Quinn Tamm	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Beahm	
Miss Gandy	

The Alsops subtly take another crack at the Bureau in the attached article entitled, "Matter of Fact".

It will be observed that from the narrative, it is pointed out that the leak of your letter to the Commerce Department on Dr. Condon could come only from the Commerce Department or the FBI. Later reference is made to the so-called leak relating to the Master File of the Civil Service Commission, and the FBI is identified as an Agency having access to the information. In the third place, reference is made to the dismissal of ten State Department employees, and it is pointed out that the State Department, Civil Service Commission, and the FBI had access to these names.

It will be observed that the FBI is identified with each of the three matters upon which a leak occurred, and I think the average newspaper reader would conclude that since the FBI was involved in all three situations, the logical inference is that the FBI is the source of these leaks.

I believe we should continue to vigorously deny any responsibility for these leaks, and I think, in addition, you should give serious consideration to the possibility of advising Secretary Harriman, on a personal basis, that the Dr. Condon letter was made available to the Dies Committee investigator by ~~Section~~ of the Department of Commerce. Perhaps Harriman will be man enough to announce that the leak was in the Commerce Department.

Attachment

cc - Mr. Ladd

EAT:FA

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/22/89 BY 208513/08

62 APR 8 1946

NOV 22 1961

RECORDED
INDEXED

100-354477-3X

94-4-3146-19
F B I

32 MAR 19 1946

HANDLED BY
STOP DESK

RECORDED COPY FILED IN

62-58854-151

G.I.R.-4

Matter Of Fact

By Joseph and Stewart Alsop

The Mystery

THE CROSS INCOMPETENCE of the handling of the Condon case by the Committee on Un-American Activity (which has led the New York Herald Tribune correctly to describe the committee's chairman as "our society's greatest single gift to Communist infiltration") has already attracted much attention. Yet another aspect of the case, in its way at least as serious, has been almost entirely overlooked. That is the mystery which surrounds the publication by the Thomas Committee of part of the famous letter from the Federal Bureau of Investigation to the Department of Commerce on the subject of Dr. Edward U. Condon's alleged shortcomings. The mystery is simply this: How did Representative J. Parnell Thomas' sleuths get their version of the FBI letter?

Mr. Robert Stripling, chief investigator for the Thomas Committee, refuses to answer this question. But it is quite obvious, as Mr. Stripling agrees, that the Thomas version of the FBI letter could only have come from the confidential files of either the FBI or of the Commerce Department. On that point, spokesmen for both the FBI and the Commerce Department also agree. Yet—and here is the mystery—the Commerce Department officially and heartily denies that it is responsible for divulging part of the contents of the famous letter to the Thomas investigators. And so does the FBI. The spokesman for the FBI states that it is illegal for the FBI to divulge such information unless publicly ordered to do so by the Attorney General. And the Commerce Department asserts further that the Thomas Committee has demanded the letter on several occasions in the past, and was each time refused.

THE IMPLICATIONS are perfectly obvious. Since the FBI or the Commerce Department were the only possible sources for the letter, one or the other, in disavowing responsibility, is mistaken. The error is no doubt unconscious. The version of the letter made public by the Thomas Committee is incomplete. And it varies in a number of particulars from the original letter. This indicates that Thomas Committee sleuths was

allowed to read a part of the letter hastily, or it was read to him, and his notes were inaccurate. At any rate, assuming that both the FBI and Commerce disclaimers are perfectly sincere, this must mean that some person with access to the confidential files of one organization or the other, has divulged part of the contents illegally and without official sanction to a Thomas investigator.

Presumably Representative Thomas or Mr. Robert Stripling knows who the person who has acted illegally is. He would seem a far fitter object for congressional attention than Dr. Condon, or than Mr. Hamilton Robinson, the State Department's leading Republican, who has been hauled up for a congressional grilling on the ground that he has a second cousin who may have leftist tendencies.

There is an element of fantasy in the whole situation. For it does not only mean that the measures taken to protect confidential material in either the Commerce Department or the FBI are ludicrously inadequate. It also means that the legislative branch of the Government is now engaged in spying on the executive branch, even to the extent of obtaining secret information through undergro methods.

THERE HAVE BEEN moreover, other parallel episodes. The ineffectable Representative Clare Hoffman of Michigan discovered recently that his name was listed in a confidential lead file of the Civil Service Commission, and made a tremendous row about it. Hoffman had, of course, no direct access to the files. However, certain investigative agencies, including the FBI and the Army security branch, did have such direct access, a practice now ended. Again, this summer 10 State Department employees were discharged, some of them certainly unjustly, as potentially disloyal. Some person gave their names to the press, thus compromising their reputations and perhaps ruining their careers. Only the State Department, the Civil Service Commission and the FBI had access to these names.

These episodes lead to the conclusion that individuals in the executive branch, with access to confidential files closely affecting the reputations of Gov-

ernment employees, are using this information either to curry favor with men like Hoffman and Thomas or for other reasons. It is almost impossible to exaggerate the seriousness of this sort of thing. It is already difficult to persuade competent men to risk their reputation in Government. Since the Condon affair, some are now talking seriously of resigning. Moreover, the very real necessity for

proper security measures to deal with pro-Communists in the Government is obscured and distorted to the delight of the Communists. The most interesting revelation which Representative Thomas and his chief investigator can now make would not concern the alleged indiscretion of Dr. Condon. It would concern rather how the Thomas Committee came into possession of the FBI letter.

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Egan _____
Mr. Gurnea _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Mohr _____
Mr. Pennington _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9-21-89 BY 208 BTJ/afp

This clipping is from

Page 9 of the

Washington Post 3/18/48

ENCLOSURE

32 MAR 19 1948

100-354477-3X

Director, FBI

3-27-48

SAC, Boston

I. F. STONE
JOSEPH W. ALSOP
INFORMATION CONCERNING

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9-22-89 BY 208 BT-Jap

On January 20, 1948, the Harvard Law School Forum presented I. F. STONE, Washington Correspondent for PM and JOSEPH W. ALSOP, New York Herald Tribune writer in a debate on the topic "Must We Stop Russia."

This appearance was at the Rindge Technical School Auditorium, Cambridge, Mass., and is part of a series of programs presented by the Law School Forum, during the course of the academic year.

For the completion of the files of the Bureau and the New York and Washington Field Offices, the following excerpt from the Harvard Crimson, a student publication at Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass., dated February 21, 1948 is being set forth:

"Newsmen STONE, ALSOP Clash on America's Russian Policy

"Speakers Differ Over Causes of Tension

"I. F. STONE, Washington correspondent for PM and "sometime columnist" for The Nation and JOSEPH W. ALSOP '32, New York Herald Tribune writer, last night converged on the Marshall Plan from two different angles, roughed it around, and finally designated it as the only possible solution for world tension.

"The battle between the two men was staged by the Law School Forum in Rindge Tech auditorium. Part of the discussion was broadcast over WHDH.

"Both speakers looked askance at the announced title of their debate: "Must We Stop Russia," and then, without answering the question, proceeded to delineate how and why the United States must block the U.S.S.R.

"U. S. Threatens Russia

"We stand with guns loaded on the borders of Soviet Russia, in Iran, in China, and in Greece, and our ships control its water outlets to the Pacific and Mediterranean. We are

62 APR 8 1948

INITIALS ON ORIGINAL

Director, FBI

-2-

3-27-48

forcing the Russians to fight," STONE said. He proposed that we block communism by building up European economy and assuming a more objective view of the world's "growing pains as it gains stature in unity."

"The crux of ALSOP's proposition for world peace was politics. "We have power, economic and technological strength more gigantic than our eastern adversary," he claimed, and advocated hog-tying Russia's expansion policy by securing the friendship and economic control of her neighbors by means of the Marshall plan."

TEM/arm

cc New York

Washington Field

Office Memorandum • ~~SECRET~~ UNITED STATES

TO : D. M. Ladd

FROM : V. P. Keay

SUBJECT: NEWS ITEM REGARDING RUSSIAN DESERTIONS BY JOSEPH AND STEWART ALSOP, Washington Post, February 15, 1948
ESPIONAGE - R

~~ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE~~

DATE: April 22, 1948

SEE REMIT
VERIFIED
CLASSIFICATION
ACTION

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease

Reference is made to a memorandum to you from Mr. J. P. Coyne in the above captioned matter dated February 28, 1948. Said memorandum indicated that the news item in particular reflected extensive Russian desertions in Germany. Reference memorandum recommended that the Liaison Section discuss the news item with [redacted]

Referral/Consult

S-1(S)

This matter will again be brought to the attention [redacted] from time to time and any reports received will be promptly brought to the attention of the interested Bureau Supervisor.

S-1(S)

RECOMMENDATION:

It is suggested this memorandum be forwarded to the Internal Security Section for the attention of Supervisor Turner.

W

6:00 AM

RECORDED

60

100-354477-5
FBI
APR 23 1948

Classified by 2881573/age
Declassify on: OADR

EX-138
9-22-89

~~SECRET~~

MAY 4-1948

100-354477

5-21

Office Memorandum

~~SECRET~~
UNITED STATES

TO : MR. LADD

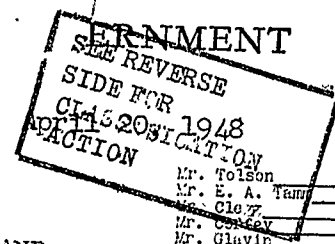
FROM : V. P. KEAY

SUBJECT:

NEWS ITEM REGARDING RUSSIAN DESERTIONS BY JOSEPH AND
STEWART ALSOP, Washington Post, February 15, 1948
ESPIONAGE - R.

~~ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE~~

DATE:



Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

Referral/Consult

Reference is made to a memorandum to you from Mr. J. P. Coyne in the above-captioned matter dated February 28, 1948. The memorandum indicates that the news item in particular indicated that there are extensive Russian desertions in Germany. It recommended that the Liaison Section discuss the news clipping with [redacted]

This matter has been discussed by Special Agent Reynolds with Colonel Goldbranson, of the Intelligence Division of the Army. Colonel Goldbranson stated that any interrogation reports that had been brought to his attention of defected Russian personnel in Germany had been brought to the attention of the FBI. He stated that it is entirely possible that there have been interrogation reports of these individuals which have not been brought to the attention of the Department of the Army and he would cause an inquiry to be made of the Theater in order to ascertain if they had any information along these lines which would be of value to the FBI.

This matter will be followed with Colonel Goldbranson and any reports received will be promptly brought to the attention of the interested Bureau supervisor.

A contact will be made with the [redacted] what information they might have on this

S-1(S)
to ascertain

~~Classified by 228053/08
Declassify on: OADR~~

SWR:tlc

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

~~SECRET~~

EX-138

100-354477

1946
MAY 4-1948

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 9-22-89 BY 208513 lqf

January 6, 1949

Mr. Tolson ✓
Mr. Clegg ✓
Mr. Glavin ✓
Mr. Ladd ✓
Mr. Nichols ✓
Mr. Rosen ✓
Mr. Tracy ✓
Mr. Egan ✓
Mr. Gurnea ✓
Mr. Harbo ✓
Mr. Mohr ✓
Mr. Pennington ✓
Mr. Quinn Tamm ✓
Mr. Nease ✓
Miss Gandy ✓

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON

Stewart Alsop called. He said he had heard the amazing story to the effect that the FBI in 1945 sent a report to Secretary Byrnes referring to Hiss' activities and mentioning matters that subsequently came out from Whittaker Chambers, that Jimmy Byrnes subsequently questioned Hiss and mentioned the name of Whittaker Chambers to Hiss, who denied any knowledge of Chambers, and that Byrnes subsequently sent Hiss to the FBI; that his deduction was either that Hiss had forgotten the name or, secondly, since he denied knowing Chambers before the Un-American Activities Committee that he was just a stupid idiot.

I told Mr. Alsop that he was posing one of those questions to us wherein we were in an embarrassing position, since we could not be of any assistance to him as we had not commented on the case. He then asked for guidance. I told him that since he had called as a matter of courtesy and for his guidance and information, he could assume that the FBI had furnished to the State Department all information in its possession pertaining to allegations on subversive activities or espionage; that, secondly, he could assume that Hiss had come to the Bureau for interview, that of course while we could not go into a discussion of the interview, nevertheless he could assume that either then or subsequently the FBI had asked Hiss if he knew Whittaker Chambers, that he of course did deny this publicly AND Alsop testified that FBI Agents had asked him if he knew Chambers.

I told Mr. Alsop I regretted that we could go no further on the matter. He expressed appreciation and stated that he of course does not quote anybody and is merely interested in guidance. He then launched into a vitriolic attack upon Hiss as well as the stupidity of the State Department for their bungling of the case. I cautiously refrained from any comment whatsoever.

RECORDED - 84

100-354477-6X
FEB 14 6-20
Respectfully,
6 JAN 13 1949

LBN:hmc

L. B. Nichols

58 JAN 17 1949
NOV 22 1961
THIS MEMORANDUM IS FOR ADMINISTRATIVE PURPOSES
TO BE DESTROYED AFTER ACTION IS TAKEN AND NOT SENT TO FILES

Office Memorandum

UNITED STATES

GOVERNMENT

TO : A. H. Belmont

FROM : C. E. Hennrich

SUBJECT: UNKNOWN SUBJECT;
STEWART ALSOP
ESPIONAGE - X

DATE: November 29, 1950

~~TOP SECRET~~

SEE REVERSE
SIDE FOR
CLASSIFICATION
ACTION

PURPOSE

To advise you (1) of information furnished by the Office of the Secretary of Defense relative to information appearing in an article in the Washington Post under date of October 13, 1950, prepared by Stewart Alsop, who writes the column "Matter of Fact." This article set forth certain information relative to the present status of Atomic Bomb production by the Soviet Union and also gave figures relative to Soviet strategic air power. According to the Office of the Secretary of Defense the information appearing in Alsop's column coincides almost exactly with similar documents of the Joint Atomic Energy Intelligence Committee and the Department of Defense. (2) To request your approval of the attached letter to the Office of the Secretary of Defense, attention Colonel Sidney S. Rubenstein, requesting that the Bureau be advised whether the Department of Defense is in a position to furnish competent witnesses to testify to the authenticity of the information in the event of prosecution in this case.

BACKGROUND

Under date of November 20, 1950, Lt. Col. Hill, who is attached to the office of Colonel Rubenstein, Office of the Secretary of Defense, delivered to a Bureau liaison representative a memorandum from Colonel Rubenstein relative to the contents of an article which appeared in the Washington Post on October 13, 1950. This article was written by Stewart Alsop, who writes the column "Matter of Fact" for the Washington Post, and the article was entitled "The Kremlin's Growing Stockpile."

Alsop in his article points out that it is now possible to give "accepted current intelligence estimates of Soviet production of Atomic Bombs." He then states that the Soviets will have 22 Atomic Bombs by the

See note:

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Declassify on: OADR

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INDEXED - 51

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end of this year and that the current rate of Soviet production is two bombs a month. His article further states that it is estimated that the production will be increased during the year 1951, so that the Soviet stock pile will be 46 Atomic Bombs by January 1, 1952. Alsop also states in his article that the Soviets are constructing a new Atomic production plant in the Urals, and that increased Atomic Bomb production is under the supervision of ~~Laurenti Beria~~, Chief of the Soviet Secret Police, who is responsible for Atomic Bomb production.

Alsop further points out that it is believed that the new plant should step up Soviet Atomic Bomb rates so that by January 1, 1953, the Soviets will have a minimum of 100 Atomic Bombs and a maximum of 130. By the end of 1955, according to Alsop's article, the Soviet stock pile is expected to reach approximately 300 bombs..

In addition to his estimates of Atomic Bombs, Alsop in his article of October 13, 1950, set forth certain information relative to Soviet strategic air power. He states that the Soviet Strategic Air Force is now believed to consist of about 400 B-29 type long range bombers, and that the Air Force is expected to grow. Alsop concludes that a determined effort must be expended "to build a serious defense in Western Europe by mid-1953 at the latest."

It is noted that in his discussion of Soviet Atomic Bomb production and Soviet air power, Alsop states "according to the most reliable intelligence, the Soviets do not now have and will not soon have either the missiles to do this job with any degree of accuracy, or the submarines capable of transporting such missiles and serving as platforms." This comment is made in a discussion by Alsop of techniques to be used in delivering Atomic Bombs to coastal cities.

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Referral/Direct

Colonel Rubenstein's memorandum points out that inquiries by the intelligence and security agencies of the Department of Defense give "reasonable assurance that the compromise did not occur in this Department." Other agencies known to have access to the Joint Atomic Energy Intelligence Committee documents are, the Central Intelligence Agency, the Department of State, the Atomic Energy Commission and the Joint Congressional Committee on Atomic Energy. S-2(75)u

For your information, a photostatic copy of the article entitled "Matter of Fact" by Stewart Alsop is being attached herewith.

A review of Bureau files reflects that on February 15, 1948, Stewart Alsop wrote an article which appeared in his column in the Washington Post entitled "U.S. Wasting 5,000 Desertions." This article dealt with the handling by the American Armed Forces of deserters from the Soviet Army in Germany, and the possible use of the deserters as sources of information by the United States Government. Alsop at that time criticized the policy of returning Soviet citizens who deserted from the Soviet Union, and pointed out that many of the deserters included men with scientific knowledge who would welcome the opportunity to come to the United States and would be in a position to provide valuable information on the inner workings of the Soviet system to the American Government.

(100-354477-3)

While Bureau files reflect numerous references regarding Alsop, he has never been the subject of an active investigation by this Bureau.

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RECOMMENDATION

Inasmuch as prosecution in this case would necessarily involve the introduction of competent testimony to show the classified nature of the material in the event of an investigation leading to prosecution, it is recommended that the attached letter be forwarded to the Office of the Secretary of Defense, attention Colonel Sidney S. Rubenstein, requesting that the Bureau be advised whether the Secretary of Defense is in a position to furnish such testimony in the event of prosecution. It is believed that this information should be available to the Bureau prior to a discussion of this case with representatives of the Department.

If you approve the above recommendation, there is attached herewith a letter to the Secretary of Defense to be delivered via liaison requesting that the Bureau be advised as to whether competent testimony can be furnished relative to the information appearing in Alsop's column.

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~~TOP SECRET~~

that the extraordinary effort which the Soviet government are making to obtain even small quantities of uranium seem—I only say seem—to justify a hopeful view." But as Churchill was quick to point out, hope should not mean complacency. Even if no new Soviet sources are found, 300 bombs will be enough—enough, delivered by surprise with reasonable accuracy, to cripple the American war poten-

concerted and determined effort to build a serious defense in western Europe, by mid-1953 at the very latest. To make such an effort will be extraordinarily difficult and extraordinarily expensive. But if it is made, we may at least hope, to quote Winston Churchill again, for a "peace of mutual terror." If it is not made, we cannot really hope for anything at all.

Matter Of Fact

By Stewart Alsop

The Kremlin's Growing Stockpile

IT IS now possible to give the accepted current intelligence estimates of Soviet production of atomic bombs. It is not possible, of course, to know how accurate these estimates are—there is no more difficult intelligence target than the Soviet Union. But it can be said that they are advanced with considerable confidence, and are accepted as a basis for American strategic planning.

The Soviets will have 22 bombs by the end of this year—by December 31, 1950. Rightly or wrongly, this figure is considered wholly reliable. So is the estimate of current Soviet atomic production—two bombs a month. It is also confidently believed that this production rate will not be substantially increased during the year 1951. This gives a total Soviet stockpile of 46 bombs by January 1, 1952.

The Soviets are, however, now constructing a great new atomic production plant in the Urals. This plant is being built with all the relentless energy of which Lavrenti Beria, secret police chief charged with responsibility for Soviet atomic production, is capable. It is expected that it will come into production at about the beginning of 1952.

HERE the estimates are, naturally, less precise. But it is believed that this new plant should step up the Soviet atomic production rate to between five and seven bombs a month. At this rate, by January 1, 1953, the Soviet stockpile should amount to a minimum of just over 100 bombs, or a maximum of 130 bombs. By the end of 1955, the Soviet stockpile is expected to total approximately 300 bombs.

It is believed that this may well be the upper limit of Soviet atomic production potential, given known uranium resources within the Kremlin's control. In other words, the experts believe that the German and Czech uranium mines, now being worked with utmost ruthlessness under slave labor conditions, will yield only enough uranium for about 300 bombs.

This is no doubt what Winston Churchill meant when he said in a recent debate in Parliament,

"that which is all that stands between the Kremlin and world domination."

YET as Churchill said, the rate of Soviet atomic production, as estimated above, does give us "a considerable interval." And as he also said, "It is this interval which we must not waste." In other words, we have some time—some time, but not very much.

If anything is certain, it is that the Kremlin will not consciously start a war which it cannot expect to win. And for at least two years, and perhaps longer, the Soviet could not expect to win a war, if these estimates of atomic production are correct. Even 100 bombs, delivered at the right time and in the right places, could do tremendous damage. But the Soviets will not be able to deliver 100 bombs at the right time in the right places even when the Soviet stockpile totals 100.

This is because of the problem of delivery. There are three main techniques of delivery. One is by bomb-laden merchant ships exploded in the harbors of coastal cities. But this is for technical reasons the least destructive way of using the bomb. Moreover, its effect would be confined to coastal areas and therefore could not be decisive. The second way is by guided missiles, fired from submarines. But again, according to the most reliable intelligence, the Soviets do not now have and will not soon have either the missiles to do this job with any degree of accuracy, or submarines capable of transporting such missiles and serving as platforms.

THERE remains, of course, the air. The Soviet strategic air force is now believed to consist of about 400 B-29 type, long-range bombers. This air force will, of course, grow—but so will American defense, and the American capacity of retaliation. Yet as the Soviet stockpile increases toward the 300 mark, so will the temptation to attempt a knock-out blow.

This temptation will become almost irresistible, if the time comes when the men in the Kremlin have both the capacity to cripple the American war potential and the capacity to conquer all Europe. This time simply cannot be allowed to come. It can only be prevented from coming if there is the most

Matter of Fact

How Red A-Blast Was Detected

By Joseph and Stewart Alsop

ONE OF THE MORE sinister tactics adopted by the new isolationists is to disseminate the rumor that the Soviet Union does not, after all, have an atomic bomb. Not long ago Senator Owen Brewster of Maine, whose irresponsibility can always be relied on, told the Senate so in plain terms.

For the sake of the record, it is fortunate that much more can now be told about how the Soviet bomb explosion was detected. And the facts, if they are studied at all, prove conclusively that what was exploded in the Soviet Union in September, 1949, was indeed an atomic bomb.

To begin at the beginning, the net for detecting a Soviet bomb explosion was established shortly after the war, by the combined efforts of the three armed service staffs, the Joint Research and Development Board, the Atomic Energy Commission and the Central Intelligence Agency. It consisted of four main parts.

First, since a bomb explosion is sufficiently violent to create earth tremors, a chain of seismological stations was organized, to detect any such tremors anywhere in the world.

Second, an atomic explosion releases a cloud of radioactive particles, which ascend to the stratosphere and there are blown around the earth by the prevailing winds. The presence of this radioactive cloud in the stratosphere is detectable by Geiger counters. Therefore, a second chain of stations with Geiger counter operators was set up.

Third, and this is vital, air samples from the radioactive cloud can be taken by high-flying aircraft or balloons equipped with special apparatus. The radioactive particles thus caught can be subjected to mineralogical analysis and the results tell much about the nature of the atomic explosion that has occurred. Arrangements to collect such air samples were also made.

Finally, all the data thus obtained can be precisely interpreted by properly trained scientists. This task, of interpreting and forming conclusions from the data collected, was intrusted to the Scientific Advisory Commission of the Atomic Energy Commission. This body, including such men as Prof. Robert Oppenheimer, Dr. Enrico Fermi, Oliver Buckley of the Bell Laboratories and President James Bryant Conant of Harvard, is as powerful and well-balanced an assemblage of scientific minds as this country can muster.

WHEN THE SOVIET BOMB exploded in central Siberia in September, 1949, all this elaborate organization, already trial-tested by our own Eniwetok bomb, went smoothly to work. The seismologists physically located the place of the explosion. The Geiger counter chain detected the radioactive cloud a little later. Air samples were immediately taken. The scientific analysis went to work.

The air samples provided the decisive evidence. In the Pentagon, the hope was briefly entertained that instead of exploding an atomic bomb intentionally, the Soviets had accidentally touched off one of their radioactive piles. But the metallic components of a pile and a bomb are entirely different. A plutonium bomb, particularly of the improved sort exploded by us at Nagasaki, contains highly special metals. And the air samples brought in radioactive metallic particles plainly indicating the explosion of a plutonium bomb at least of the Nagasaki type, if not better.

Members of the Joint Chiefs of Staff sat with the Scientific Advisory Board in the last phase of preparation of its report to President Truman. All agreed on the conclusion, which was informally summed up by one of the authors of the report in a single, black sentence:

"The chances are nine hundred and ninety-nine to one that it was a bomb that went off; and if it was not a bomb, neither I nor any of my colleagues can think of what it might have been."

Subsequently, secret intelligence confirmed the findings made in September, 1949. The highest intelligence sources now agree, moreover, that current Soviet bomb output is at the rate of about two a month, and at the end of the coming year will rise to five or more a month. Thus, as of now, the officially estimated Soviet stockpile is about 24 bombs; it will be nearly 50 bombs in another 12 months; and in two years, it will be well over 100 bombs. The military significance of this timetable does not need to be underlined.

Such, for the information of Senator Brewster, are the undisputed facts. It is well to remember them, because this new isolationist denial of the Soviet bomb's existence recalls the tactics of the men who simultaneously told the British people in the late '30s that the enemy was too weak to attack, and that Britain was too weak to resist. These men also were attempting to organize their country's abject surrender.

300 bombs.

This is no doubt what Winston Churchill meant when he said in a recent debate in Parliament that "the extraordinary efforts which the Soviet government are making to obtain even small quantities of uranium seem—I only say seem—to justify a hopeful view." But as Churchill was quick to point out, hope should not mean complacency. Even if no new Soviet sources are found, 300 bombs will be enough

potential and the capacity to conquer all Europe. This time simply cannot be allowed to come. It can only be prevented from coming if there is the most concerted and determined effort to build a serious defense in western Europe by mid-1953 at the very latest. To make such an effort will be extraordinarily difficult and extraordinarily expensive. But if it is made, we may at least hope, to quote Winston Churchill again, for a "peace of mutual terror." If it is not made, we cannot really hope for anything at all.

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Oct 13, 1950

Matter Of F

By Stewart Alsop

The Kremlin's Growing Stockpile

IT IS now possible to give the accepted current intelligence estimates of Soviet production of atomic bombs. It is not possible, of course, to know how accurate these estimates are—there is no more difficult intelligence target than the Soviet Union. But it can be said that they are advanced with considerable confidence, and are accepted as a basis for American strategic planning.

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HERE the estimates are, naturally, less precise. But it is believed that this new plant should step up the Soviet atomic production rate to between five and seven bombs a month. At this rate, by January 1, 1953, the Soviet stockpile should amount to a minimum of just over 100 bombs, or a maximum of 130 bombs. By the end of 1955, the Soviet stockpile is expected to total approximately 300 bombs.

It is believed that this may well be the upper limit of Soviet atomic production potential, given known uranium resources within the Kremlin's control. In other words, the experts believe that the German and Czech uranium mines, now being worked with utmost ruthlessness under slave labor conditions, will yield only enough uranium for about

tial, which is all that stands between the Kremlin and world domination.

YET, as Churchill said, the rate of Soviet atomic production, as estimated above, does give us "a considerable interval." And as he also said, "It is this interval which we must not waste." In other words, we have some time—some time, but not very much.

If anything is certain, it is that the Kremlin will not consciously start a war which it cannot expect to win. And for at least two years, and perhaps longer, the Soviet could not expect to win a war, if these estimates of atomic production are correct. Even 100 bombs, delivered at the right time and in the right places, could do tremendous damage. But the Soviets will not be able to deliver 100 bombs at the right time in the right places even when the Soviet stockpile totals 100.

This is because of the problem of delivery. There are three main techniques of delivery. One is by bomb-laden merchant ships exploded in the harbors of coastal cities. But this is for technical reasons the least destructive way of using the bomb. Moreover, its effect would be confined to coastal areas and therefore could not be decisive. The second way is by guided missiles, fired from submarines. But again, according to the most reliable intelligence, the Soviets do not now have and will not soon have either the missiles to do this job with any degree of accuracy, or submarines capable of transporting such missiles and serving as platforms.

THERE remains, of course, the air. The Soviet strategic air force is now believed to consist of about 400 B-29 type, long-range bombers. This air force will, of course, grow—but so will American defense, and the American capacity of retaliation. Yet as the Soviet stockpile increases toward the 300 mark, so will the temptation to attempt a knock-out blow.

This temptation will become almost irresistible, if the time comes when the men in the Kremlin have both the capacity to cripple the American war

SEE REVERSE
SIDE FOR
CLASSIFICATION
ACTION

~~TOP SECRET~~

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

CONFIDENTIAL
VIA ~~LIAISON~~

100-354477-8

Date: November 29, 1950

To: The Honorable
The Secretary of Defense
The Pentagon
Washington 25, D. C.

Classified by ~~100-354477-8~~
Declassify on: OADR 9-22-89

Attention: Colonel Sidney S. Rubenstein, USAF
Assistant for Administrative Security
Coordination

From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: UNKNOWN SUBJECT;
STEWART ALSOP
ESPIONAGE - X

Reference is made to your memorandum of November 7, 1950,
which was delivered to Special Agent M. J. Lynch of this Bureau
by Lieutenant Colonel Hill on November 20, 1950, relative to an
article appearing in the Washington Post on October 13, 1950,
by Stewart Alsop entitled "The Kremlin's Growing Stockpile." S-1 (75) u

It is noted that your analysis of the information which
appeared in Alsop's column indicates that Alsop had access to
top secret documents of the Joint Atomic Energy Intelligence
Committee and the Department of Defense, through a source which
has not, as yet, been identified. S-1 (75) u

This Bureau desires to point out that should an
investigation be undertaken by the Bureau to identify the source
from which Alsop obtained his information, and should this
investigation lead to prosecution, it will be necessary for
testimony to be presented to establish the fact that the material
appearing in Alsop's column coincides with information appearing
in top secret documents of the Joint Atomic Energy Intelligence
Committee and the Department of Defense.

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DECLASSIFIED BY 100-354477-8
ON 3/5/93 Doc letter to Defense
Jed 12-20-91

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In view of the above fact, it is requested that you advise the Bureau whether your office is in a position to furnish testimony of the type described above. It is requested that this information be furnished to the Bureau as soon as possible in order that it will be available when this matter is presented to the Department of Justice for an opinion.

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Office Memorandum

TOP SECRET
UNITED STATES GOVERNMENTSEE REVERSE
SIDE FOR
GOVERNMENT
ACTION

TO : Mr. D. M. Ladd

FROM : Mr. A. H. Belmont

SUBJECT: STEWART ALSOP;
UNKNOWN SUBJECT
ESPIONAGE - X

DATE: December 8, 1950

Tolson _____

Ladd _____

Clegg _____

Glavin _____

Nichols _____

Rosen _____

Tracy _____

Harbo _____

Belmont _____

Mohr _____

Tele. Room _____

Nease _____

Gandy _____

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

PURPOSE:

To advise you (1) that the Department of Defense has advised that it will not declassify top secret information to be used as evidence in comparing data which appeared in Stewart Alsop's column, "Matter of Fact" on October 13, 1950, relative to production of Soviet atomic bombs and the strength of the Soviet Strategic Air Force and (2) to recommend that this matter be referred to the Department for an opinion as to further action to be taken by this Bureau in connection with this matter. S-1 (TS) u

BACKGROUND:

You will recall that by memorandum of November 29, 1950, you were advised that the Office of the Secretary of Defense through Colonel Sidney S. Rubenstein called to the attention of the Bureau information appearing in the October 13, 1950, edition of the Washington Post in a column entitled "Matter of Fact" by Stewart Alsop. This article, which was entitled "The Kremlin's Growing Stockpile," gave estimates of Soviet atomic production and estimates of the strength of the Soviet Air Force which, according to the author, Alsop, "are accepted as a basis for American strategic planning." S-1 (TS) u

Colonel Rubenstein's analysis of the information, from a security standpoint, concluded that Alsop either had access to top secret documents of the Joint Atomic Energy Intelligence Committee and the Department of Defense, or was briefed by someone who had knowledge of the contents of these documents. Colonel Rubenstein further pointed out that inquiries had been made in the Department of Defense which indicated that the compromise of the top secret information did not occur in that Department. He pointed out that the information was available to CIA, the S-1 (TS) u

100-354477
Attachment
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Classified by *[signature]*
Declassify on OADR

TOP SECRET

W.A.A.

DECLASSIFIED & DECLASSIFIED
ON 9/25/94
100-354477

~~TOP SECRET~~

Department of State, AEC and the Joint Congressional Committee on Atomic Energy, in addition to the Joint Atomic Energy Intelligence Committee and the Department of Defense. S-1(75) w

On November 29, 1950, a memorandum was directed to the Office of the Secretary of Defense requesting that the Bureau be advised whether the Department of Defense is in a position to furnish competent witnesses to testify to the authenticity of the information appearing in Alsop's column on October 13, 1950, in the event that it was determined through investigation by this Bureau that Alsop had access to classified information through an unidentified source.

By letter dated December 4, 1950, from the Office of the Secretary of Defense, the Bureau was advised that declassification of pertinent documents for purposes of prosecution would not be feasible and that the information furnished previously by the Office of the Secretary of Defense should be considered only as "furnishing possible additional leads to information already in the possession of the Federal Bureau of Investigation." w

With regard to Stewart Alsop, Bureau files reflect numerous references regarding Alsop in connection with his writings, but he has never been the subject of an active investigation by this Bureau.

RECOMMENDATION:

In view of the above developments, if you approve, it is recommended that the attached letter be forwarded to Mr. Peyton Ford, Deputy Attorney General, requesting his opinion relative to further action in connection with this matter. A photostatic copy of Alsop's article is attached as an enclosure with the letter to the Deputy Attorney General.

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~~TOP SECRET~~

~~ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE~~

SEE REVERSE
SIDE FOR
CLASSIFICATION
ACTION

Mr. Peyton Ford
Deputy Attorney General

December 8, 1950

Director, FBI

CONFIDENTIAL

STEWART ALSOP;
UNKNOWN SUBJECT
ESPIONAGE - X

~~TOP SECRET~~

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100-354477-10

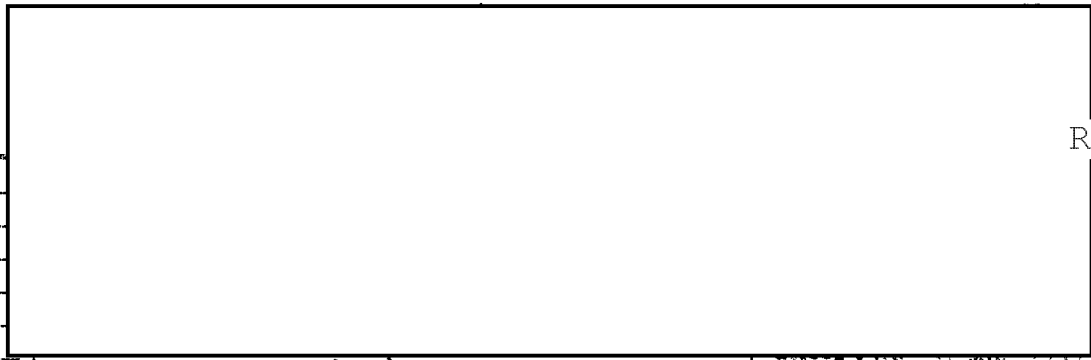
This Bureau recently received from the Office of the Secretary of Defense a photostatic copy of an article written by Stewart Alsop, which appeared in the October 13, 1950, issue of the Washington Post in Alsop's column entitled "Matter of Fact."

The article in question at this time was captioned "The Kremlin's Growing Stockpile." A photostatic copy of the article is attached for your information.

You will note that the author refers to "accepted current intelligence estimates of Soviet production of Atomic Bombs," and that certain information also appears in the article relative to the strength of the Soviet strategic Air Force.

In referring the above matter to this Bureau, an analysis of the information was prepared by Colonel Sidney S. Rubenstein, Office of the Secretary of Defense, relative to the security aspects of the information. Colonel Rubenstein pointed out that the author, Stewart Alsop, may have had access to top secret documents of the Joint Atomic Energy Intelligence Committee of the Department of Defense, or may have been briefed by someone who had knowledge of the contents of the top secret documents. In connection with his analysis the following points are noted by Colonel Rubenstein relative to the information which appeared in the article written by Stewart Alsop:

DECLASSIFIED BY *Defense 17 3/24/93*
ON *12/19/94* *SP8 BJA/mnt*



Referral/Direct

- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. Ladd _____
- Mr. Clegg _____
- Mr. Glavin _____
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Tracy _____
- Mr. Harbo _____
- Mr. Mohr _____
- Mr. Pennington _____
- Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
- Mr. Nease _____
- Miss Gandy _____

WAA:epa

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Declassify on: OADR

Attachment

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Referral/Direct

Colonel Rubenstein's memorandum to the Bureau advised that inquiries by the intelligence and security agencies of the Department of Defense give "reasonable assurance that the compromise did not occur in this Department." Other agencies known to have access to the Joint Atomic Energy Intelligence Committee documents are the Central Intelligence Agency, the Department of State, the Atomic Energy Commission, and the Joint Congressional Committee on Atomic Energy. S-1 (FS) u

The Bureau requested the Office of the Secretary of Defense to advise whether it was in a position to furnish competent witnesses to testify to the authenticity of the information which appeared in Alsop's column, in the event of an investigation leading to prosecution. u

Under date of December 4, 1950, the Bureau was advised by letter from Colonel Sidney S. Rubenstein, Office of the Secretary of Defense, that the declassification of pertinent documents for purposes of prosecution is not feasible.

In view of the above facts, your opinion is requested as to further action to be taken by this Bureau in connection with the above matter.

~~TOP SECRET~~



OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

4 December 1950

*Rec'd from OSD.
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[Handwritten signature]

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Reference is made to your memorandum of 29 November 1950 concerning the necessity of providing evidence in the form of certain classified documents of the Department of Defense should investigation of the matters discussed lead to prosecution.

A previous inquiry, by this office, indicates that the declassification of pertinent documents for the purposes you mention is not feasible. The information contained in the memorandum of this office dated 7 November 1950 must therefore be considered only as furnishing possible additional leads to information already in the possession of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Sincerely yours,

~~DECLASSIFIED RECORDING~~
~~DECLASSIFIED~~

[Handwritten signature: Sidney S. Rubenstein]

SIDNEY S. RUBENSTEIN
Colonel, USAF
Assistant for Administrative Security
Coordination

[Handwritten initials]

Honorable J. Edgar Hoover
Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation
Department of Justice
Washington 25, D. C.

*memo to Peyton Ford
12-7-50
WRA:ega*

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SEE REVERSE
SIDE FOR
CLASSIFICATION
ACTION

SAC, Washington Field

January 6, 1951

Director, FBI

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

PERSONAL ATTENTION
STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

STEWART ALSOP;
JOSEPH ALSOP;
UNKNOWN SUBJECT;
ESPIONAGE - X

166-354477-11

See memo

Classified by *Mattala Dwyer*
Declassify on: OADR *513088*
8-22-89

Under date of January 5, 1951, Mr. Peyton Ford, Deputy Attorney General, forwarded to the Bureau two photostatic copies of two articles which appeared in the Washington Post. One article was entitled "How Red A-Blast Was Detected," which appeared in the Washington Post under date of December 31, 1950, in the column entitled "Matter of Fact," written by Joseph and Stewart Alsop. The second article appeared in the January 3, 1951, issue of the Washington Post and was written by Alfred Friendly, Post reporter. This article quoted Gordon Dean, Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission, as stating that the source from which it was learned that Russia has an A-bomb is a "tightly held secret."

In addition to the above article, Stewart Alsop wrote an article on October 13, 1950, in his column "Matter of Fact," which appeared in the Washington Post entitled "The Kremlin's Growing Stockpile." A photostatic copy of the October 13, 1950 article, as well as the two articles mentioned above, are enclosed herewith for your information.

You will note that Alsop, in his article of October 13, 1950, states that it is now possible to get "accepted current intelligence estimates of Soviet production of atomic bombs." He then sets forth certain figures relative to Soviet atomic production as well as the present status of Soviet strategic airpower.

Under date of November 20, 1950, Colonel Sidney S. Rubenstein of the Office of the Secretary of Defense, forwarded a memorandum to the Bureau setting forth the following analysis of the information which appeared in the column of Stewart Alsop on October 13, 1950:

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Referral/Direct

Colonel Rubenstein's memorandum to the Bureau advised that the inquiries by the intelligence and security agencies of the Department of Defense "give reasonable assurance that the compromise did not occur in this Department." He further advised that the following agencies are known to have access to top secret data relative to Soviet atomic bomb production: S-2(15)u

- (1) The Joint Atomic Energy Intelligence Committee
 - (2) The Central Intelligence Agency
 - (3) The Department of State
 - (4) The Atomic Energy Commission
 - (5) The Joint Congressional Committee on Atomic Energy
- S-2(75)u

Enclosed with the letter to the Bureau from Deputy Attorney General Peyton Ford dated January 5, 1951, was a copy of a memorandum from the President to the Attorney General in which the President stated that the information appearing in the column of the Alsop brothers was highly classified and of major significance to the national security. The President requested the Attorney General to instruct the Federal Bureau of Investigation to make a complete and searching investigation of this matter with a view to possible prosecution as well as to such other administrative action as may be necessary "to obviate its recurrence." The President further requested the Attorney General to advise him of the results of this investigation. S-1(S)u

In accordance with the above instruction, you are instructed to institute immediately an investigation to determine the possible source or sources through which Stewart and Joseph Alsop

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~~TOP SECRET~~

are obtaining information relative to Soviet production of atomic bombs as well as other classified information which has been set forth in their column "Matter of Fact." In connection with this inquiry, you should immediately interview Colonel Sidney S. Rubenstein of the Office of the Secretary of Defense in order to obtain from him all available information as to the identity of individuals having access to classified information relative to Soviet atomic bomb production in the Defense Department.

Furthermore, you should interview Mr. Gordon Dean, Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission, and obtain from him all information which he may have relative to the identity of individuals having access to atomic bomb production data in the Atomic Energy Commission.

You should further determine at the Central Intelligence Agency the identity of individuals having access to this information, and a similar inquiry should be conducted at the Department of State.

With respect to the Joint Congressional Committee on Atomic Energy and the Joint Atomic Energy Intelligence Committee, no inquiries should be conducted by your office without prior authority from the Bureau.

This investigation must have prompt and continuous attention and the Bureau must be advised at the earliest possible date of any and all developments relative to this matter.

This case should be handled by experienced agents and all interviews must be thoroughly conducted in an effort to determine the source of the information of the Alsop brothers. Upon completion of the above investigation, the Bureau should be advised, at which time consideration will be given to an interview with Stewart and Joseph Alsop.

~~TOP SECRET~~
~~TOP SECRET~~

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

DATE: January 5, 1951

FROM : Peyton Ford, Deputy Attorney General

PF:JMM:RPW:mab

SUBJECT: STEWART ALSOP
UNKNOWN SUBJECT
ESPIONAGE - X.~~SECRET~~

Supplementing my memorandum of January 3, 1951, entitled as above, there are enclosed two photostatic copies of two articles which appeared in the Washington Post, one entitled "How Red A Blast Was Detected", by Joseph and Stewart Alsop, which appeared in the Post issue of December 31, 1950, and the other entitled "Dean Favors Freer Trade in Atom Data", by Alfred Friendly, which appeared in the Post issue of January 3, 1951.

It is requested that a complete and searching investigation be made of this matter with a view to possible prosecution as well as such other administrative action as may be necessary to obviate its recurrence. The request for such investigation is transmitted directly from the President. A copy of the President's memorandum in this regard is also enclosed.

Enclosure
No. 76472

RECORDED - 7A

INDEXED - 7B

JAN 10 1951
15DECLASSIFIED BY SP-6 BJA/mst
ON 9/21/94

SECRET

Memo to Peyton Ford dated
1/10/51 with encl.
11/15/51

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

January 4, 1951

~~SECRET~~

Memorandum for: The Attorney General

From: The President

The enclosed article by the Alsop brothers is a matter of deep concern to me in view of its disclosure of highly classified information of major significance to our national security. Accordingly, I desire that the Federal Bureau of Investigation make a complete and searching investigation of this matter with a view to possible prosecution as well as such other administrative action as may be necessary to obviate its recurrence. I have noted in this connection that Chairman Dean of the Atomic Energy Commission called attention on Tuesday to the fact that the methods employed in the detection of atomic explosives is "a tightly held secret". I should like to be advised of the results of this investigation as soon as it is completed.

H. S. T.

cc x Gordon Dean
Chairman
Atomic Energy Commission

DECLASSIFIED BY *DOJ Letter 7/5/93*
ON 12/21/94 *Sp688/AM* ----- COPY

100-354477-11

~~SECRET~~

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

January 10, 1951

Mr. Peyton Ford
Deputy Attorney General
Director, FBI

RECORDED - 40

100-354477-12
STEWART ALSOP;
JOSEPH ALSOP
UNKNOWN SUBJECT
ESPIONAGE - X

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SEE REVERSE
SIDE FOR
CLASSIFICATION
ACTION

Reference is made to your memorandum of January 3, 1951,
relative to the above-captioned individual.

~~SECRET~~
Reference is also made to your supplemental memorandum of
January 5, 1951, in which you requested that a complete and searching
investigation be conducted by this Bureau with a view to possible
prosecution in this case. You will recall there was enclosed with
your memorandum of January 5, 1951, an article entitled, "How Red A-
Blast Was Detected," by Joseph and Stewart Alsop, which article
appeared in the Washington "Post" under date of December 31, 1950.
There is attached herewith for your information a photostatic copy
of the book review entitled, "Science Writer 'Grades' H-Bombs; Opposes
the Use of 'Rigged' Ones," prepared by W. S. Haseltine relative to
the book by William L. Laurence entitled, "The Hell Bomb." This
review appeared in the January 7, 1951, edition of the Washington "Post." S-1 (S)

In connection with the enclosed photostatic copy your
attention is directed to paragraph 5, column 1, which sets forth
the sources used by William L. Laurence in the preparation of his
book, "The Hell Bomb."

For your information, the investigation requested in your
letter of January 5, 1951, is continuing and you will be advised of
the results of the inquiry being conducted by this Bureau at an early
date.

Classified by ~~SECRET~~
Declassify on: OADR

Enclosure
DEC 10-1020112 OFFICE

WAA:eev

~~SECRET~~

DECLASSIFIED BY 9803 RDD/pen
ON 3/11/93

100-354477-12
JAN 11 1951
E.O. # 12812
CLASSIFIED BY
EXEMPT FROM
AUTOMATIC
DECLASSIFICATION
EXEMPTION

67 JAN 20 1951

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES

TO : Director, FBI

g/hw FROM : GUY HOTTEL, SAC, Washington Field

SUBJECT: STEWART ALSOP, et al
ESPIONAGE - X

DATE

Cincinnati

Remytel this date.

There are enclosed herewith for the C: Division, two photostatic articles of the ALSOP B: as described in reference teletype, entitled, "How A-Blast Was Detected" and "The Kremlin's Growing

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9-22-89 BY 2088 STJ/cg

JPB:cl
65-5722

RECORDED - 72

EX-52

cc - Cincinnati (encl) (AMSD)

JAN 13 1951

274
59 JAN 16 1951

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office N

m • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

SEE REVERSE
SIDE FOR
CLASSIFICATION
ACTION

TO : D. M. Ladd
FROM : A. H. Belmont
SUBJECT: STEWART ALSOP;
JOSEPH ALSOP;
UNKNOWN SUBJECT
ESPIONAGE - X

~~SECRET~~

DATE: January 12, 1951

Tolson
Ladd
Clegg
Glavin
Nichols
Rosen
Tracy
Harbo
Tele. Room
Nease
Gandy

PURPOSE:

Classified by *Multiple*
Declassify on: OADR

To advise you that in connection with the inquiry presently being conducted by the Bureau to determine the source of the leak of information to the Alsop brothers relative to Soviet atomic bomb production and the detection of the Soviet A blast, R. Gordon Arenson, Special Assistant to the Under Secretary of State, has indicated during an interview that Secretary of State Dean Acheson, Under Secretary James E. Webb, Under Secretary H. Freeman Matthews and Assistant Secretary John D. Hickerson

An interview is recommended with Under Secretaries Webb and Matthews and Assistant Secretary Hickerson. It is recommended that no interview be conducted with Secretary of State Dean Acheson at the present time.

BACKGROUND:

You will recall that under date of January 6, 1951, the Bureau instituted an investigation upon instructions from Deputy Attorney General Peyton Ford to determine the source of information available to the Alsop brothers relative to top secret information which appeared in a column, "Matter of Fact," written by the Alsops in the Washington Post on October 13 and December 31, 1950. This information concerned the present estimates of Soviet atomic bomb stockpiles, Soviet strategic air power and the methods used in detecting the first atomic bomb blast set off by the Russian Government.

This investigation was requested by the President of the United States in a memorandum to the Attorney General, a copy of which was enclosed to the Bureau with the letter of Deputy Attorney General Peyton Ford.

RECORDED - 59

100-354477
Attachment
WAA:dpk

JAN 16 1951

DECLASSIFIED BY 60267 NLS/BK
ON 2/27/01
per CIA letter dated 5/14/99

~~SECRET~~

WAA

~~SECRET~~

In connection with this investigation, Mr. R. Gordon Arenson, Special Assistant to the Under Secretary of State, Referral/Consult advised during an interview on January 9, 1951, [redacted]

[redacted] had been made available to Secretary of State Dean Acheson, Under Secretary of State James E. Webb, Under Secretary of State H. Freeman Matthews and Assistant Secretary of State John D. Hickerson.

The Washington Field Office was advised that interviews with these officials should be held in abeyance until Bureau authorization was received to proceed with the interviews of these individuals.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that Under Secretary of State James E. Webb, Under Secretary of State H. Freeman Matthews and Assistant Secretary of State John D. Hickerson be interviewed by Agents of the Washington Field Office in an effort to ascertain the extent of their contacts with the Alsop brothers, to determine whether or not information was obtained through them by the Alsop brothers and also to determine what knowledge they may have of the dissemination of this information through the State Department.

It is recommended that no interview be conducted with Secretary of State Dean Acheson at this time.

There is attached, if you approve, a ^{MEMO} teletype to the Washington Field Office instructing that the interviews be conducted in accordance with the above recommendation.

OK.
H

- 2 -

~~SECRET~~

SAC, Washi

January 9, 1951

Director, FBI

STEWART ALSOP;
JOSEPH ALSOP;
UNKNOWN SUBJECT
ESPIONAGE - X

BY SPECIAL MESSENGER

Reurtel January 8, 1951, relative to interview with
Mr. James S. Lay, Jr. of the National Security Council. Inter-
view at National Security Council being handled at Bureau.
Results will be furnished to you.

WAA:dpk

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9-22-89 BY SP-8 GJL/afp

RECORDED - 103

EX-60

100-354177-15
JAN 11 1951

DEC 11 1950
FBI
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JAN 10 1 55 PM '51
FBI
RECEIVED-TWO

6 JAN 18 1951

JAN 9 1951
COMM - FBI

WAA

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

WASHINGTON FIELD

FILE NO. 65-4356

REPORT MADE AT SAN FRANCISCO	DATE WHEN MADE 1/15/51	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 1/13, 14/51	REPORT MADE BY DAVID E. TODD hmk
--	----------------------------------	---	--

TITLE STEWART ALSOP; JOSEPH ALSOP; UNKNOWN SUBJECTS	CHARACTER OF CASE ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 12/20/89 BY 2578 BJA/af
---	---

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Lt. Gen. ALBERT C. WEDEMEYER advised that the ALSOP brothers are acquainted with Secretary of State DEAN ACHESON, Lt. Gen. LAURIS NORSTAD, Major Gen. KENNETH NICHOLS, Major Gen. SAMUEL ANDERSON, and Brig. Gen. BERNARD A. LOPER. General WEDEMEYER recognized none of the language in the ALSOP articles of 10/13/50 and 12/31/50 as having appeared in any secret documents he had seen. He could name no classified documents from which the articles might have been prepared.

- P -

DETAILS:

AT SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

Lieutenant General ALBERT C. WEDEMEYER, Commanding General, Sixth Army, Presidio of San Francisco, was interviewed at his office on January 1, 1950 by SA EUGENE E. BJORN and the writer.

General WEDEMEYER stated that he is personally acquainted with the ALSOP brothers. He met JOSEPH ALSOP in China during the last war, at which time JOSEPH ALSOP was Aide-de-Camp to General CLAIRE CHENNAULT. General WEDEMEYER said he had been entertained in JOSEPH ALSOP's home in Georgetown. He said the ALSOP brothers are related to the late President FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT and also to the ANNA LONGWORTH ROOSEVELT side of the family, and also that while in China JOSEPH ALSOP corresponded directly with the late President ROOSEVELT. He believed that the ALSOPs were close friends of Secretary of State DEAN ACHESON. In addition, he stated he knew that the ALSOPs were well acquainted with Lieutenant General LAURIS NORSTAD, Major General KENNETH NICHOLS, Major General SAMUEL ANDERSON, and Brigadier General BERNARD A. LOPER, all of whom he believed were at Washington, D.C. at the Pentagon Building at the present time.

PROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE <i>[Signature]</i>	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES 701 12 1/7/51	RECORDED - 32
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 3 - BUREAU (AMSP) 1 - WASHINGTON FIELD (65-5722) (AMSP) 1 - SAN FRANCISCO		INDEXED - 32	

General WEDEMAYER stated that during the war the ALSOPs were firm supporters of the New Deal and that he believed them to be loyal and honest, and he stated that he was amazed that they would publish the articles dated October 13, 1950 and December 31, 1950 without clearance.

He stated he had no prior knowledge of the information which was contained in the article of December 31, 1950 regarding the use of the Air Force taking air samples with special equipment which were subjected to analysis for radioactivity. He stated he had seen no classified documents containing this information. He was aware of some classified information regarding the Eniwetok atomic explosion, and he knew that meteorological studies had been made of the radioactive cloud after the bomb explosion, but he said he had no additional information of more recent date than the Eniwetok test. He stated this information had been brought to his attention in top secret briefings given to high ranking Army officers at Washington, D.C. He stated he has been away from Washington, D.C. for one and one-half years and has not been kept up to date on recent developments in this field.

General WEDEMAYER stated that he had read the SMYTHE Report on Atomic Energy and that it was his opinion that information relating to the fact that the explosion gave off a radioactive cloud appeared in the SMYTHE Report, and that it was possible the ALSOP brothers may have used other information in the SMYTHE Report in preparing their article, although he could not point out other specifics. He stated he had never discussed any classified information relating to the above matters with the ALSOPs. He did not recognize any of the language in the ALSOP articles with the language in any classified reports seen by him. He could name no classified documents from which the articles could have been prepared.

- PENDING -

- ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT -

General WEDEMEYER suggested that the Bureau interview the associates of the ALSOPs mentioned by him, and that, in addition, General HOYT VANLERBERG be contacted for details concerning the classified documents. General WEDEMEYER stated that he would be willing to make any inquiry which the Bureau deemed advisable which he felt might aid the Bureau's investigation. He stated he was departing on Sunday, January 14, 1951, for Washington, D.C. by air, and he volunteered to confront the ALSOP brothers with the articles and advise them he was amazed that they would print such information of a secret nature and he would obtain their reaction to this. He said he would also endeavor to obtain from them the source of the information in the articles and if he were successful he would advise the Bureau as to the results of his contact with the ALSOPs.

Because the San Francisco Office was not cognizant of all aspects of the investigation, General WEDEMEYER was advised the San Francisco Office was not in a position to make a decision as to whether he should contact the ALSOPs as outlined above. General WEDEMEYER stated he would take no action unless contacted by the Bureau at Washington, D.C. and given specific instructions in this regard. General WEDEMEYER is proceeding to Washington by air, Sunday, January 14, 1951, where he can be reached at the Hotel Statler on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, January 15-17, 1951. He advised that contact with him should be made through his Aide, Captain ROBERT BERRY.

The information contained in this report was transmitted to the Bureau and the Washington Field Office by teletype dated January 14, 1951, and the Bureau was requested to advise the Washington Field Office whether it was desirable that General WEDEMEYER be contacted to conduct this inquiry.

It has been the experience of the Agents of the San Francisco Office that the University of California Radiation Laboratory has an extensive library of top secret data relating to atomic energy and top scientists of the UCRL have an extensive knowledge of all developments in atomic energy. It is therefore suggested that these top scientists may be in a position to identify the secret documents from which the ALSOP articles were prepared. Specifically, it is believed desirable to interview ERNEST O. LAWRENCE, Director of the UCRL, DONALD COOKSEY, Associate Director, LUIS ALVAREZ, who has acted as a consultant for the Air Force, JOSEPH HAMILTON, and ROBERT L. THORNTON, who in the past have been extremely cooperative with Bureau Agents and have an

- ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE -

extensive knowledge of atomic energy, and GLEN T. SEABORG, who until August of 1950 was a member of the Scientific Advisory Board of the AEC, which, according to the ALSOP article of December 31, 1950, prepared a top secret report relating to the explosion of the atom bomb in Siberia.

Since the above are all associated with the University of California at Berkeley, the Bureau was requested by teletype dated 1/15/51 to authorize the San Francisco Office to interview these scientists.

SF #65-4356.

- LEADS -

THE SAN FRANCISCO OFFICE:

AT BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA

Will, in the event Bureau authority is granted, interview the top scientists at the University of California, Radiation Laboratory, regarding this matter.

- REFERENCE -

Washington Field teletype dated 1/11/51.
Bureau teletype dated 1/13/51.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

CC-150

37766

del

To: COMMUNICATI

January 12, 1951

URGENT

Transmit the following message to: SAC'S CINCINNATI, NEWARK, SAN FRANCISCO,
LOS ANGELES

STEWART ALSOP; JOSEPH ALSOP; AND UNSUB, ESPIONAGE - X. REURTEL JANUARY ELEVEN,
NINETEEN HUNDRED FIFTY-ONE CONCERNING INTERVIEWS IN CONNECTION WITH ABOVE
CAPTIONED. SUTEL RESULTS OF INVESTIGATION IMMEDIATELY UPON COMPLETION OF
SAME. REPORT SHOULD BE PREPARED TO FOLLOW IN TWENTY-FOUR HOURS.

WAA:epa

8-11-51

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9-22-85 BY SP-5 BJS/af

RECORDED - 40

100-354477-19

JAN 13 1951

EX. - 36

JAN 12 1951

TELETYPE

FIMK

59 JAN 20 1951

SENT VIA

REC'D DEPT. OF JUSTICE
E.B.T.
REC'D DEPT. OF JUSTICE TELETYPE
22 JAN 1951

Per

olson _____
add _____
egg _____
lavin _____
nichols _____
oson _____
racy _____
urbo _____
lhr _____
le. Room _____
lso _____
lady _____

RECEIVED BY DEPT. OF JUSTICE
JAN 12 1951
FBI
JAN 15 2 50 PM '51

CHS

WAA

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JAN 12 1951

TELETYPE

FBI WASHINGTON D C

1-12-51

SAC, CINCINNATI

U R G E N T

STEWART ALSOP-- JOSEPH ALSOP-- AND UNSUB, ESPIONAGE
JANUARY ELEVEN, NINETEEN HUNDRED FIFTY-ONE CONCERNING
CONNECTION WITH ABOVE CAPTIONED. SUTEL RESULTS OF
IMMEDIATELY UPON COMPLETION OF SAME. REPORT SHOULD
FOLLOW IN TWENTY-FOUR HOURS.

HOOVER

ALL INFORMATION
HEREIN IS UNCLASS
DATE 1/22/89 BY

NK, SF AND LA ADVISED

END AND ACK PLS

OK FBI CI ABC

WHM:c1
65-5722

FBI WASHINGTON FIELD
DIRECTOR, FBI

1-12-51 . 10:30 AM

URGENT

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

STEWART ALSOP, ET AL, ESP - X. REMYTEL OF TEN FORTYFIVE PM,
JANUARY ELEVEN, LAST, WHICH SET FORTH CERTAIN INFORMATION SECURED
IN INTERVIEW WITH REAR ADMIRAL W. S. PARSONS, OSD. ON PAGE FIVE
OF REFERENCE TELETYPE IT IS MENTIONED THAT PARSONS INDICATED THAT
DURING FORRESTAL REGIME, JOSEPH ALSOP HAD ACCESS TO CERTAIN SECRET
MATERIAL. PARSONS MENTIONED THAT HE PERSONALLY WORKED WITH JOE
ALSOP ON ARTICLES WHICH ALSOP PREPARED CONCERNING THE GUIDED MISSILE
PROGRAM. L. R. HAFSTAD, NOW AT AEC, ALSO WORKED WITH ALSOP ON THE
GUIDED MISSILE PROGRAM ARTICLE. PARSONS STRESSED THAT THIS
COOPERATION WITH ALSOP WAS WITH THE APPROVAL OF FORRESTAL.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/22/89 BY SP8 BTJ/laf
HOTTEL

INDEXED

1/100-3544-17-18
JAN 16 1951

EX-60

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum •

UNITED STATES

~~SECRET~~

TO : MR. A. H. BELMONT
FROM : MR. C. E. HENRICH
SUBJECT: STEWART ALSOP, ET AL
ESPIONAGE - X

DATE

~~ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE~~

I talked with Supervisor Oberndorf c
regarding the teletype of January 12 requestin
advice as to whether [REDACTED]

S-1 (S)

Referral/Consult

Mr. Oberndorf advised that no inform
been received by the WFO indicating [REDACTED]
knowledge of the material concerning which the
disclosures nor is there information indicati
access to the documents.

I told him that in the absence of si
[REDACTED] should not be interviewed.

ACTION:

For your information

CEH:mer

Classified by 2285T J28
Declassify on: 9-22-89
~~SECRET~~

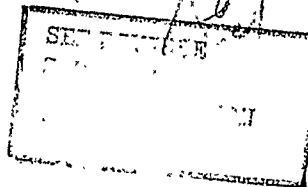
WAB
RECORDED

66 JAN 19 1951

EA-00

JPB:cl
65-5722

~~SECRET~~



Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

FBI WASHINGTON FIELD

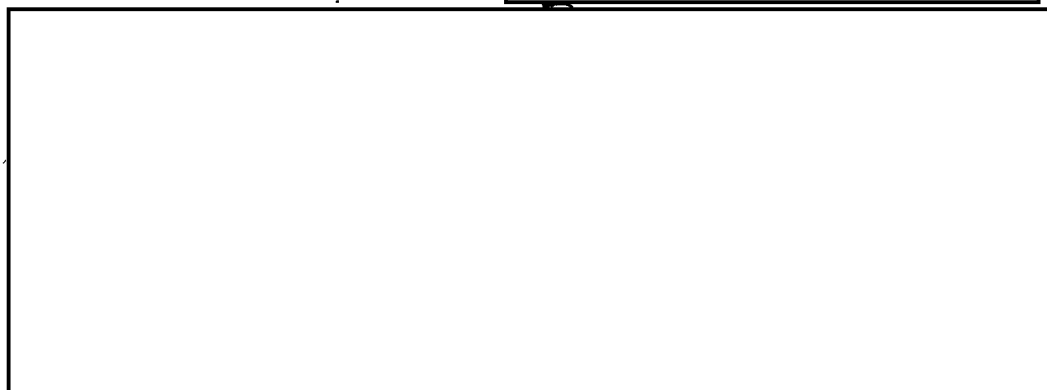
1-12-51

10:35 AM

URGENT

DIRECTOR, FBI

STEWART ALSOP, ET AL, ESP - X



Referral/Direct

~~SECRET~~
HOTTEL
5-3089
DECLASSIFIED BY SP4 JLB/DM
DATE 1-2-89
#253493

~~ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 1-2-89 BY SP4 JLB/DM
#253493~~

RECORDED - 6
INDEXED - 6
EX-60
WRA
CONFIDENTIAL
JAN 16 1951

~~SECRET~~

JAN 19 1951

C. C. [Signature]

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

JPB:cl
65-5722

FBI WASHINGTON FIELD

1-12-51

10:35 AM

URGENT

DIRECTOR, FBI

STEWART ALSOP. ET AL, ESP - X.

Referral/Direct

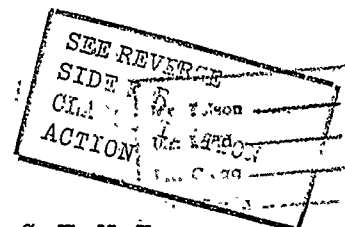
HOTTEL

5-30-86
Class:

046466m

1/12/50
W 70 advised
revised received 52(S)
that (Chin) had
had access to documents
see memo by
Hummel
W.A.A.

~~CONF~~



FBI WASH FIELD
DIRECTOR

~~SECRET~~

1/9/51

U R G E N T

7:20p

STEWART ALSOP ET AL UNKNOWN SUBJECT: ESPIONAGE DASH X. LIEUTENANT
COLONEL ANDREW L. COX AIR FORCE MEMBER QUOTE BLUE TEAM UNQUOTE,
MILITARY LIAISON COMMITTEE, AEC BUILDING, KNEW OF EXISTENCE
OF SOME DOCUMENT EMBRACING SOVIET A BOMB DETECTION DATA BUT
DID NOT SEE SAME OR EXCERPS THEREFROM AND HAD NO KNOWLEDGE SUCH
DOCUMENT WAS EXHIBITED OR DISSEMINATED AT AEC.

Referral/Consult

CLASSIFICATION UNKNOWN. COX HAD NO FURTHER PERTINENT
INFORMATION. REMYTEL JANUARY EIGHT INSTANT REFERENCE TO MAJOR
GENERAL D. M. SCHLATTER WHO HAND DELIVERED A COPY OF REPORT
PREPARED BY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD TO AEC FOR EXAMINATION.
ALSOP ARTICLE QUOTE HOW RED A BLAST WAS DETECTED UNQUOTE, ACCORDING
TO GORDAN DEAN, CHAIRMAN AEC, WAS BASED ON SUCH A REPORT AS
WAS DELIVERED BY SCHLATTER TO AEC. EFFORTS WERE MADE TO PERSONALLY
REACH SCHLATTER IN WASHINGTON FOR PURPOSE OF IDENTIFYING ALL
PERSONS AT AEC TO WHOM SCHLATTER MADE AVAILABLE THE ABOVE REPORT.
IT WAS DETERMINED THAT SCHLATTER PRESENTLY IS COMMANDING
GENERAL, HEADQUARTERS, AIR RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT COMMAND, WRIGHT

JPB:plb
65-5722

~~SECRET~~

JAN 19 1951

Classified by
Declassify on: OADR

9-25-89

100-35777-21
JAN 16 1951

14

WPA
CC-444

PAGE TWO

~~SECRET~~

*Ad to
Cov
WFO*

DASH PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, DAYTON, OHIO, AND AS OF TODAY
SCHLATTER IS AT THAT BASE. BUREAU REQUESTED TO ADVISE IF
LEAD SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO CINCINNATI DIVISION BY WFO FOR
INTERVIEW OF SCHLATTER. MAJOR GENERAL C. P. CABELL, DIRECTOR
INTELLIGENCE OFFICE, DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF, AIR FORCE OPERATIONS,
USAF, AND BRIGADIER GENERAL ERNEST MOORE OF CABELL'S OFFICE
INTERVIEWED TODAY. CABELL ADVISED THAT ANY USAF INQUIRY THIS
MATTER WOULD HAVE BEEN HANDLED BY OSI AND CABELL THEN CALLED
IN MAJOR GENERAL JOSEPH CARROLL OF OSI. CABELL STATED ALSOP
ARTICLE ON A BLAST WAS BELIEVED BY HIM TO HAVE BEEN PREPARED
PURPOSELY TO MISLEAD THE READER OF ARTICLE TO COVER SOURCE:
THAT HE, CABELL, HAD PREVIOUSLY MADE THAT STATEMENT TO DOCTOR
WALTER F. COLBY AS PER MYTEL OF JANUARY EIGHT INSTANT. FURTHER
RE A BLAST ARTICLE CABELL AND MOORE CLAIM PROBABLE NON EXISTENCE
OF A SINGLE DOCUMENT CONTAINING SUFFICIENT DATA TO PERMIT
WRITING THE ALSOP A BLAST ARTICLE. CABELL CLAIMS IF SUCH A
DOCUMENT HAD BEEN HANDLED BY USAF IT WOULD NORMALLY HAVE CROSSED
HIS DESK. HE RECALLS NO SUCH DOCUMENT BUT SUGGESTS INSTEAD A
BLAST ARTICLE PROBABLY COMPOSED FROM FRAGMENTARY DATA. GENERAL

JPB:plb
65-5722

~~SECRET~~

PAGE THREE

~~SECRET~~

CARROLL STATED NO SPECIFIC INQUIRY OR INVESTIGATION HAS BEEN INITIATED RE ALSOP ARTICLES BY USAF AND HE HAD NO KNOWLEDGE SPECIFIC DOCUMENTS EXISTED WHICH COVERED A BLAST DETECTION DATA. CABELL, CARROLL AND MOORE ALL EXPRESSED OPINION THAT LEAK DID NOT OCCUR WITHIN USAF. ALL RECOMMENDED COMPLETE DESCRIPTION OF A BLAST DOCUMENTS COULD BE DETERMINED THROUGH

Referral/Direct

TO IDENTIFY

S-2(S)(X)(S)

PERTINENT DOCUMENTS AND DISSEMINATION OF SAME.

HOTTEL

Stuco

JPB:plb
65-5722

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

~~ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE~~

SEE REVERSE
Mr. Tolson
Mr. Boardman
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Mohr
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Casper
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. Felt
Mr. Gale
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Sullivan
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Tele. Room
Miss Gandy
GENERAL

FBI WASH FIELD

1-9-51

DIRECTOR

U R G E N T

STEWART ALSOP, JOSEPH ALSOP, UNKNOWN SUBJECT, ESPIONAGE DASH X.
ROSCOE C. WILSON, ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHIEF STAFF, OPERATIONS FOR ATOMIC
ENERGY, DEPARTMENT OF AIR FORCE, WHEN INTERVIEWED TODAY, DESCRIBED THE
ALSOP COLUMN OF DECEMBER THIRTYONE, FIFTY, ENTITLED QUOTE HOW RED A-BLAST
WAS DETECTED UNQUOTE AS A HIGH CLASS PIECE OF INTELLIGENCE WHICH DID NOT
APPEAR TO BE PIECED TOGETHER, BUT APPEARED RATHER TO HAVE COME FROM A
QUOTE KNOWLEDGEABLE INDIVIDUAL UNQUOTE. GEN. WILSON INDICATED THAT THE
COLUMN WAS FACTUALLY SUBSTANTIALLY CORRECT, BUT NOT NECESSARILY COMPLETE.
HE REFERRED TO ONE PARTICULAR PHRASE IN THE COLUMN WHICH HE INDICATED
IMPRESSED HIM AS BEING CLASSIFIED INFORMATION. THIS PHRASE APPEARS IN
COLUMN TWO, PARAGRAPH TWO, AND REFERS TO THE EXPLOSION OF QUOTE A
PLUTONIUM BOMB AT LEAST OF THE NAGASAKI TYPE, IF NOT BETTER UNQUOTE. HE
ALSO COMMENTED THAT THE QUOTATION WHICH APPEARS IN COLUMN TWO, PARAGRAPH
FOUR OF THE ALSOP COLUMN SOUNDED FAMILIAR TO HIM AND INDICATED THAT HE HAD
HEARD A SIMILAR QUOTATION BUT COULD NOT RECALL WHERE HE HAD HEARD IT. HE
SPECIFICALLY STATED, HOWEVER, THAT THE QUOTATION WAS NOT FROM ANY OFFICIAL
CLASSIFIED DOCUMENT WHICH HE HAD SEEN. IN REFERENCE TO THE FORMER QUOTATION
CONCERNING THE NAGASAKI TYPE BOMB, GEN. WILSON STATED THAT QUOTE THIS
SOUNDS LIKE OPPENHEIMER UNQUOTE. THIS REFERENCE IS TO J. ROBERT OPPENHEIMER
WHO IS THE WELL KNOWN SCIENTIST IN THE FIELD OF ATOMIC ENERGY RESEARCH.

WILSON ALSO COMMENTED THAT ALTHOUGH THE ARTICLE WAS SUBSTANTIALLY CORRECT

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THERE WERE CERTAIN ERRORS AND CITED THE FOLLOWING EXAMPLES: IN COLUMN ONE, PARAGRAPH SEVEN, THE LIST OF SCIENTISTS IS INCORRECT; THE INFORMATION IN COLUMN TWO, PARAGRAPH ONE, INDICATING THAT THE GEIGER COUNTERCHARGE DETECTED THE RADIO ACTIVE CLOUD CAUSED BY THE SOVIET BOMB EXPLOSION IS ALSO INCORRECT; IN THE SAME PARAGRAPH, IT IS ERRONEOUS TO STATE THAT THE SEISMOGRAPH DETECTED THE PHYSICAL LOCATION OF THE EXPLOSION. WILSON RELATED THAT APPROXIMATELY TWO YEARS AGO HE WORKED ON A GUIDED MISSILES ARTICLE WITH JOSEPH ALSOP. HE INDICATED THIS ARTICLE WAS PROPERLY CLEARED AND THAT ON THIS OCCASION HE OBTAINED A VERY FAVORABLE IMPRESSION OF JOSEPH ALSOP, POINTING OUT THAT HE WAS EXTREMELY THOROUGH, METICULOUS, AND INTELLIGENT. WILSON INDICATED THAT HE HAD NEVER MET STEWART ALSOP AND INDICATED THAT HE HAD NEVER FURNISHED ANY INFORMATION TO JOSEPH ALSOP OTHER THAN ON THE PREVIOUSLY MENTIONED OCCASION AT WHICH TIME INFORMATION GIVEN ALSOP WAS PROPERLY CLEARED. WILSON EXPRESSED THE OPINION THAT THERE ARE PROBABLY NOT MORE THAN THREE HUNDRED PEOPLE WHO POSSESS THE NECESSARY FIRST HAND FACTUAL KNOWLEDGE SUFFICIENT TO PROVIDE THE NECESSARY SOURCE MATERIAL TO PREPARE THE ALSOP ARTICLE QUOTE HOW RED A-BLAST WAS DETECTED UNQUOTE. HE ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT THERE ARE A COUNTLESS NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS WHO KNOW SOME OF THE INFORMATION ALTHOUGH NOT ALL OF THE INFORMATION WHICH APPEARED IN THE ARTICLE. GEN. WILSON OBSERVED THAT THE INFORMATION IN INSTANT ARTICLE WAS ABSOLUTELY NOT QUOTE LIFTED UNQUOTE FROM ONE DOCUMENT OR A PARTICULAR GROUP OF DOCUMENTS,

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AND OBSERVED THAT HIS WHOLE FILE WOULD NOT HAVE PRODUCED THE INFORMATION FOR THIS ARTICLE IN ITS ENTIRETY. HE SUGGESTED THAT THIS INFORMATION MIGHT CONCEIVABLY HAVE BEEN RELATED DURING A BRIEFING AT THE COMMITTEE ON ATOMIC ENERGY OF AIR FORCE. IT WAS NOTED THAT DURING THESE BRIEFINGS CERTAIN ASPECTS OF VARIOUS PROJECTS WERE DISCUSSED IN ORDER, AMONG OTHER THINGS, TO SECURE THE NECESSARY FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS FOR THE CARRYING OUT OF INDIVIDUAL PROJECTS. GEN. WILSON NEXT ADVISED THAT HE HAD CAREFULLY REVIEWED HIS TOP SECRET FILES AND HAD ASCERTAINED THAT THERE WERE THREE DOCUMENTS WHICH MIGHT HAVE SOME BEARING ON THE ALSOP ARTICLE. HE STRESSED THAT THERE WAS NOTHING WHICH INDICATED THAT ANY OF THE INFORMATION IN THE ALSOP ARTICLE HAD BEEN EXTRACTED FROM THESE DOCUMENTS. ~~THESE~~ THESE DOCUMENTS WERE IDENTIFIED

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THREE TO REAR ADMIRAL W. S. PARSONS. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] GEN. WILSON INDICATED THAT HE HAD PERSONALLY
ACCOUNTED FOR ALL COPIES AND NONE ARE MISSING. GEN WILSON INDICATED THAT
THE STENOGRAPHIC WORK OF [REDACTED] ^(S) *LIKELY* WAS VERY LIGHTLY PERFORMED BY MRS. *S-368*
MARCY ENNIS, THE CONFIDENTIAL SECRETARY OF GENERAL SCHLATTER, ATTACHED TO *S-1(8)*
MILITARY LIAISON COMMITTEE. MRS. ENNIS IS CONSIDERED ABOVE REPROACH BY *(S)*
GEN. WILSON AND IS NOW IN FORT KNOX, KENTUCKY, ON SIX MONTHS' LEAVE. GEN.
WILSON FURTHER INDICATED THAT HE HAD QUESTIONED HIS OWN SECRETARY MRS.
LOUISE SALTER WHO HAS THE COMBINATION TO HIS SAFE. IN AGENTS PRESENCE
GEN. WILSON AGAIN ASKED MRS. SALTER TO TELL HIM THE FIRST OCCASION OF WHICH
SHE HAD EVER SEEN THE ENVELOPE CONTAINING THE SECRET DOCUMENTS. SHE STATED
THAT SHE HAD FIRST SEEN THE ENVELOPE AND ITS CONTENTS WHICH SHE HAD NOT READ.
YESTERDAY. [REDACTED]

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HE INDICATED HE WOULD SECURE

(6) THIS INFORMATION. COLONEL DAVID M. PERKINS, CHIEF OF SECURITY OFFICE FOR ARMED FORCES, INTELLIGENCE AND SECURITY DIVISION, ADVISED AFTER PERUSING THE ALSOP ARTICLE OF DECEMBER THIRTYONE, FIFTY, THAT THE INFORMATION CONTAINED THEREIN, IN HIS OPINION, WAS NOT GENERALLY KNOWN BUT WAS ACTUALLY KNOWN IN DETAIL TO A RELATIVELY FEW PEOPLE ON A HIGH LEVEL. HE INDICATED THAT HE COULD NOT SINGLE OUT ANY DOCUMENT OR GROUP OF DOCUMENTS TO HIS KNOWLEDGE WHICH MIGHT HAVE SERVED AS SOURCE MATERIAL FOR THE ARTICLE. HE COMMENTED THAT IF THE SOURCE MATERIAL FOR THE ARTICLE WAS MADE AVAILABLE TO THE ALSOP BROTHERS, IT APPEARED IT WAS GIVEN OUT BY SOMEONE WELL INFORMED ON A HIGH LEVEL AND WAS NOT THE RESULT OF PIECING TOGETHER BITS OF INFORMATION WHICH MIGHT HAVE BEEN GATHERED FROM SCATTERED SOURCES. HE ADDED HOWEVER THAT SOME OF THE INFO WHICH APPEARED IN THE ARTICLE WAS CERTAINLY WIDELY KNOWN TO NUMEROUS PEOPLE. COLONEL PERKINS STRESSED THE FACT THAT HE IS NOT WELL INFORMED CONCERNING THE MATERIAL APPEARING IN THE ARTICLE AND DID NOT CONSIDER HIMSELF COMPETENT TO MAKE ANY SPECIAL OBSERVATION.

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GENERAL A. R. LUEDECKE, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, MILITARY LIAISON COMMITTEE TO AEC, DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE, ADVISED THAT HE HAD GIVEN CONSIDERABLE THOUGHT TO THE ALSOP ARTICLE OF DECEMBER THIRTY-ONE, FIFTY, SINCE THE INITIAL INTERVIEW WITH HIM ON JANUARY EIGHT, LAST. LUEDECKE STATED IT WAS HIS OPINION THAT THE INFORMATION IN THE ALSOP ARTICLE CAN NOT BE NAILED DOWN TO A SINGLE DOCUMENT OR GROUP OF DOCUMENTS. HE ADDED THAT ^AAT A CONSERVATIVE ESTIMATE HE WOULD SAY THERE ARE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTY TO TWO HUNDRED PERSONS IN THE GOVERNMENT WHO WOULD POSSESS SUFFICIENT FIRST HAND INFORMATION WHICH WOULD ENABLE THEM TO SERVE AS SUITABLE SOURCES FOR THE MATERIAL SET FORTH IN THE ALSOP ARTICLE. HE INDICATED THERE ARE A COUNTLESS NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS WHO POSSESS KNOWLEDGE OF SOME OF THE INFORMATION SET FORTH IN THE ALSOP ARTICLE. GENERAL LUEDECKE STATED HE HAD BEEN DOING SOME RESEARCH IN AN EFFORT TO SATISFY HIMSELF AS TO THE TRUE ORIGIN OF THE MATERIAL IN THE ALSOP ARTICLE AND IN THIS CONNECTION HAD LOCATED A BOOK REVIEW WHICH APPEARED ON JANUARY SEVEN, LAST, IN THE QUOTE NEW YORK TIMES UNQUOTE, PARENTHESIS IT HAS NOT BEEN DEFINITELY ASCERTAINED WHETHER THIS BOOK REVIEW APPEARED IN THE NEW YORK TIMES OR THE WASHINGTON POST PARENTHESIS. THE BOOK REVIEW IN QUESTION WAS WRITTEN BY M. S. ~~HASELTINE~~ ON THE RECENTLY PUBLISHED BOOK ENTITLED QUOTE THE ~~HELL~~ BOMB UNQUOTE, BY WILLIAM L. ~~LAURENCE~~. HASELTINE DESCRIBES LAURENCE AS A VETERAN SCIENCE WRITER WHO WAS THE ONLY REPORTER INVITED TO PASS THE MILITARY SECRECY

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BARRIER TO SEE THE ATOMIC BOMB IN ITS MAKING; TO WITNESS THE FIRST ATOMIC BOMB TESTS, AND TO PARTICIPATE IN THE FLIGHT WHICH DROPPED THE SECOND ATOMIC BOMB ON NAGASAKI. HASELTINE STATED THAT LAURENCE DISCLAIMS ANY INSIDE TRACK OR SECRET INFORMATION FOR SUMMATION OF PROGRESS ON THE H DASH BOMB. ALL HIS INFORMATION, CONCLUSIONS, AND QUOTE GUESSTIMATES UNQUOTE, HE SAYS COME FROM THREE SOURCES: PUBLISHED WRITINGS OF SCIENTISTS, CATS LET OUT OF THE BAG BY SENATOR EDWIN C. JOHNSON, PARENTHESIS DEMOCRAT, COLORADO, PARENTHESIS, AND SOME DISCUSSIONS HE HAD DURING THE ATOMIC BOMB MAKING DAYS AT LOS ALAMOS, NEW MEXICO. LAURENCE SAYS THAT SENATOR JOHNSON, A MEMBER OF THE JOINT CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE ON ATOMIC ENERGY, TIPPED OFF ANYONE WHO CARED TO FIGURE IT OUT HOW THIS COUNTRY FOUND OUT RUSSIA HAD EXPLODED AN ATOMIC BOMB AND THE FACT THAT THE BOMB WAS MADE FROM PLUTONIUM. SENATOR JOHNSON, IN A TELEVISION BROADCAST, MADE THREE QUOTE INADVERTENT BLURBS UNQUOTE, LAURENCE WRITES. LAURENCE LISTS THESE SECRETS AS ONE: CONFIRMING THAT THE NAGASAKI BOMB WAS MADE OF PLUTONIUM, TWO, THAT THE ATOMIC EXPLOSION IN RUSSIA ANNOUNCED BY PRESIDENT TRUMAN WAS THAT OF AN ATOMIC BOMB, AND THREE, THAT THE BOMB WAS MADE OF PLUTONIUM. ACCORDING TO HASELTINE, LAURENCE CONTINUED BY STATING THAT BY TELLING THE WORLD THAT THE UNITED STATES KNEW WHAT KIND OF BOMB THE RUSSIANS HAD EXPLODED, SENATOR JOHNSON ALSO DISCLOSED HOW THAT EXPLOSION WAS DETECTED DASH AIR SAMPLINGS OF RADIOACTIVE PARTICLES. GENERAL LUEDECKE PRODUCED A COPY OF LAURENCE'S BOOK, QUOTE THE HELL BOMB UNQUOTE, SECURED FROM THE AEC LIBRARY, AND EXAMINATION OF THE BOOK REVEALS IT WAS PUBLISHED IN NINETEEN FIFTY-ONE, COPYRIGHTED NINETEEN FIFTY, BY ALFRED A. KNOFF IN NEW YORK. ON PAGES

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SIXTY-TWO AND SIXTY-THREE OF THE BOOK, LAURENCE REFERS TO SENATOR JOHNSON'S TELEVISION BROADCAST OF NOVEMBER ONE, FORTY-NINE, AND QUOTES JOHNSON AS SAYING THE RUSSIANS HAVE A BOMB MORE OR LESS SIMILAR TO THE BOMB DROPPED AT NAGASAKI. HE THEN CONTINUES TO DISCUSS JOHNSON'S BROADCAST AS IT IS SET FORTH IN THE BOOK REVIEW WRITTEN BY HASELTINE DESCRIBED ABOVE. GENERAL LUEDECKE ALSO PRODUCED A PUBLICATION WHICH CONTAINED EXTRACTS FROM THE TRANSCRIPTION OF A TELEVISION BROADCAST ON NOVEMBER ONE, FORTY-NINE, AT EIGHT P. M., OVER WABD DASH TV PARENTHESIS NEW YORK, PARENTHESIS, AND DUMONT TELEVISION NETWORK. THE SUBJECT WAS ENTITLED QUOTE IS THERE TOO MUCH SECRECY IN OUR ATOMIC PROGRAM UNQUOTE, AND SENATOR JOHNSON WAS SUBJECTED TO QUESTIONING IN A DISCUSSION OF THE PROGRAM. AT ONE POINT DURING THE BROADCAST, JOHNSON REFERRED TO A MATTER WHICH HE DESCRIBED AS QUOTE TOP SECRET UNQUOTE. HE INDICATED THAT OUR SCIENTISTS HAVE BEEN TRYING TO MAKE WHAT IS KNOWN AS A SUPER BOMB AND THAT CONSIDERABLE PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE IN THAT DIRECTION. HE FURTHER STATED QUOTE NOW THERE IS NO QUESTION AT ALL BUT THAT THE RUSSIANS HAVE A BOMB MORE OR LESS SIMILAR TO THE BOMB WE DROPPED AT NAGASAKI, A PLUTONIUM BOMB. OUR SCIENTISTS ARE CERTAIN THAT THEY HAVE THE BOMB, BUT ITS NOT A BETTER BOMB THAN DROPPED AT NAGASAKI....." GENERAL LUEDECKE ALSO PRODUCED A COPY OF AN ASSOCIATED PRESS NEWS FLASH WHICH WAS RELEASED SEPTEMBER TWENTY-THREE, FORTY-NINE, WHICH LUEDECKE INDICATED WAS THE DATE THAT PRESIDENT TRUMAN MADE PUBLIC THE FACT THAT THERE HAD BEEN AN ATOMIC BOMB EXPLOSION IN RUSSIA, WHICH DATE LUEDECKE STATED HE HAD ERRONOUSLY REPORTED YESTERDAY AS SEPTEMBER THIRTY, FORTY-NINE, AND WHICH WAS SO SET FORTH IN MYTEL OF JANUARY EIGHT, LAST. THIS ASSOCIATED PRESS NEWS FLASH WAS

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DATELINED AT FLUSHING, NEW YORK, AND STATED THAT GENERAL FREDERICK OSBORN, PERMANENT UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE ON THE UN ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION, STATED HE HAD NO DOUBT THE REPORT PARENTHESIS, THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT PARENTHESIS, OF AN ATOMIC EXPLOSION QUOTE IS CORRECT UNQUOTE. OSBORN FURTHER STATED QUOTE I KNOW WE ARE EQUIPPED TO KNOW UNQUOTE. IN ADDITION OSBORN STATED QUOTE I SAID IN THE AEC THAT WE WOULD KNOW WITHIN A FEW HOURS FROM THE CHANGE IN THE AMOUNT OF RADIATION IN THE ATMOSPHERE. WE HAVE OBSERVERS AT DIFFERENT POINTS. YOU CAN ALSO TELL THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A URANIUM AND PLUTONIUM EXPLOSION UNQUOTE. GENERAL LUEDECKE OBSERVED THAT HE WAS PRESENTING ALL OF THE FOREGOING INFORMATION TO POINT OUT HOW A COLUMNIST AS INTELLIGENT AND AS ASTUTE AS ALSOP COULD WRITE AN ARTICLE SUCH AS THE ARTICLE OF DECEMBER THIRTY-ONE, FIFTY, WITHOUT HAVING HAD ACCESS TO ANY CLASSIFIED DOCUMENT OR DOCUMENTS. LUEDECKE OBSERVED AS IS INDICATED ABOVE, THAT LONG BEFORE THE ALSOP ARTICLE THERE HAD BEEN PUBLIC TALK OF QUOTE AIR SAMPLING UNQUOTE AS A MEANS OF DETECTING AN ATOMIC BOMB BLAST, AS WELL AS MUCH OF THE OTHER INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THE ALSOP ARTICLE. INVESTIGATION CONTINUING.

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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10:30pm

DIRECTOR, FBI

URGENT

STEWART ALSOP, JOSEPH ALSOP, UNKNOWN SUBJECT, ESPIONAGE X. REMYTEL THIS
DATE. COLONEL SIDNEY S. RUBENSTEIN AND LT. COLONEL GEORGE P. HILL, OFFICE

FOR ADMINISTRATIVE SECURITY COORDINATION, OFFICE OF SECURITY DEFENSE,
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE, ADVISED ALTHOUGH THAT NEITHER OF THEM
HAD SEEN ORIGINAL REPORTS UPON WHICH ALSOP COLUMNS DATED OCTOBER THIRTEEN
AND DECEMBER THIRTY ONE, NINETEEN FIFTY WERE BASED AND POSSESSED NO
INFORMATION CONCERNING CONTENTS OR IDENTITY OF SUCH REPORTS WITH EXCEPTION
OF THAT WHICH REPORTED TO BUREAU NOVEMBER TWENTY, NINETEEN FIFTY. BOTH
STATED THEY ALSO POSSESSED NO INFORMATION CONCERNING CLASSIFICATION OF
ITEMS OR IDENTITY OF INDIVIDUALS WHO HAD ACCESS TO CLASSIFIED INFORMATION
CONTAINED THEREIN. COLONEL RUBINSTEIN STATED THAT STEWART ALSOP WAS KNOWN
TO HAVE HAD QUOTE INSIDE TRACK UNQUOTE WITH OFFICE OF FORMER SECRETARY OF
DEFENSE FORRESTAL BUT THAT JOHNSON SEVERED THIS RELATION WITH THE ALSOPS
IN NO UNCERTAIN TERMS SO THAT ALSOPS IMMEDIATELY BEGAN TO ATTACK JOHNSON
IN THEIR COLUMN. RUBINSTEIN REPORTED THAT STEWART ALSOP CALLED UP MR.
ROBERT LE BARON, CHAIRMAN OF THE MILITARY LIAISON COMMITTEE TO THE AEC,
AND WANTED TO OBTAIN A COMPLETE BRIEF ON USSR ATOMIC CAPABILITIES AND
THREATENED LE BARON UPON HIS REFUSAL TO COOPERATE. SEVERAL WEEKS LATER
ON OCTOBER THIRTEEN, NINETEEN FIFTY, ALSOP ARTICLE APPEARED ENTITLED
QUOTE THE KREMLIN'S GROWING STOCK PILE UNQUOTE. COLONEL HILL OBSERVED

THAT SENATOR EDWIN C. JOHNSON OF COLORADO, A MEMBER OF THE JOINT CONGRESSIONAL

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Mr. Tolson ✓
Mr. Ladd ✓
Mr. Clegg ✓
Mr. Glavin ✓
Mr. Nichols ✓
Mr. Rosen ✓
Mr. Tracy ✓
Mr. Harbo ✓
Mr. Belmont ✓
Mr. Mohr ✓
Tele. Room ✓
Mr. Nease ✓
Miss Gandy ✓

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COMMITTEE ON ATOMIC ENERGY, IS, IN HIS OPINION, A VERY WEAK SECURITY HAZARD AND WOULD BE WILLING TO FURNISH INFORMATION IN THE EVENT HE THOUGHT IT MIGHT BRING HIM CERTAIN POLITICAL ADVANTAGES. HILL THEN MENTIONED THAT HE HAD HEARD THAT PRESIDENT TRUMAN HAD CALLED SENATOR JOHNSON TO THE WHITE HOUSE AND SEVERELY REPRIMANDED HIM FOR MAKING PUBLIC CERTAIN INFORMATION WHICH THE PRESIDENT FELT SHOULD BE HELD CONFIDENTIAL. BOTH HILL AND RUBINSTEIN COMMENTED THAT SENATOR JOHNSON AS A MEMBER OF THE JOINT CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE ON ATOMIC ENERGY WOULD HAVE KNOWLEDGE OF THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THE ALSOP ARTICLE ENTITLED QUOTE THE KREMLIN'S GROWING STOCK PILE UNQUOTE. BOTH RUBINSTEIN AND HILL STATED THAT THEY DID NOT DISCLOSE ANY OF THE INFORMATION WHICH APPEARED IN THE ALSOP COLUMNS DATED OCTOBER THIRTEEN AND DECEMBER THIRTY ONE, NINETEEN FIFTY. BOTH MEN INDICATED THEY ARE NOT PERSONALLY ACQUAINTED WITH THE ALSOP BROTHERS. RUBINSTEIN AND HILL CALLED ATTENTION TO A THIRD COLUMN WRITTEN BY THE ALSOP BROTHERS WHICH APPEARED IN THE WASHINGTON POST DATED DECEMBER TWENTY TWO, NINETEEN FIFTY, ENTITLED QUOTE THE TIME IS NOW UNQUOTE. THIS ARTICLE MAKES REFERENCE TO A HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL DIRECTIVE NUMBER SIXTY EIGHT

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CALLED TO THE ATTENTION OF PATRICK COYNE OF THE NSC AND IT HAD BEEN DECIDED
THAT SINCE NSC WAS THE PRINCIPAL AGENCY INVOLVED, NO FURTHER ACTION WOULD BE
TAKEN BY THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE. NO ACTION IS BEING TAKEN IN REGARD TO
THE ALSOP REVELATION OF INFORMATION IN NSC DIRECTIVE NUMBER SIXTY EIGHT
UACB. WITH REFERENCE AS TO THE POSSIBILITY OF THE LEAK, COLONEL HILL
VENTURED THE PERSONAL OPINION THAT HE FEELS THE LEAK COULD WELL HAVE
OCCURRED QUOTE ON THE HILL UNQUOTE. HE THEN REFERRED TO THE PREVIOUS
INFORMATION HE HAD FURNISHED REGARDING SENATOR JOHNSON AND COMMENTED THAT A
MAN IN POLITICAL LIFE IS MORE VULNERABLE TO THE TYPE OF PRESSURE WHICH IS
UTILIZED BY THE ALSOP BROTHERS THAN IS A MAN WHO IS EMPLOYED ON A REGULAR
BASIS BY THE GOVERNMENT. COLONEL HILL ALSO MENTIONED THAT HE UNDERSTOOD
THE ALSOP BROTHERS ARE VERY WELL FIXED FINANCIALLY AND ARE THE TYPE OF MEN
WHO WOULD NOT HESITATE TO PAY FOR INFORMATION IF THEY COULD OBTAIN IT IN
THIS MANNER. HE ADDED THAT THE CHARACTER OF THESE MEN IS SUCH THAT THEY WOULD
NOT HESITATE TO PAY A QUOTE GRADE THREE STENOGRAPHER UNQUOTE FOR INFORMATION
IF SHE WOULD BE WILLING TO SELL IT TO THEM. ROBERT LE BARON, CHAIRMAN OF
MILITARY LIAISON COMMITTEE TO AEC, REPORTED THAT APPROXIMATELY ONE YEAR
AGO HE HAD BEEN CALLED TO THE OFFICE OF LT. GENERAL LAURIS NORSTAD OF AIR
FORCE AT THE PENTAGON, WHERE ONE OF THE ALSOPS, SPECIFIC IDENTITY UNKNOWN,
WAS PRESENT WITH A REPORT RELATING TO THE H BOMB WHICH ALSOPS WANTED NORSTAD
OR LE BARON TO COMMENT ON RELATIVE TO ACCURACY AND FOR APPROVAL, STATING THAT
HE WANTED TO PUBLISH THE SUBSTANCE OF THIS REPORT IN HIS COLUMN. LE BARON
SAID THAT BOTH HE AND NORSTAD DECLINED TO MAKE ANY COMMENT WHATSOEVER CONCERNING

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THIS ARTICLE. SEVERAL MONTHS AGO ONE OF THE ALSOP BROTHERS, SPECIFIC IDENTITY UNKNOWN, TELEPHONICALLY CONTACTED LE BARON AND ADVISED HIM THAT HE WAS PREPARING TO RELEASE SOME INFORMATION IN HIS COLUMN THE PUBLICITY OF WHICH ALSOP FELT WOULD BE DAMAGING TO LE BARON. HE POINTED OUT TO LE BARON THE ADVISABILITY OF THEIR MUTUALLY DISCUSSING THIS MATERIAL PRIOR TO ITS RELEASE. MR. LE BARON INDICATED THAT THE IMPLICATION WAS THAT IT WOULD BE TO HIS ADVANTAGE TO SEE ALSOP AND DISCUSS THE MATTER. HE TOLD ALSOP THAT HE COULD DISCUSS NOTHING WITH HIM AND INDICATED THAT HE WOULD ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY FOR ANY PUBLICITY WHICH MIGHT APPEAR IN THE PRESS ADDING THAT HE COULD THINK OF NOTHING IN WHICH HE WAS INVOLVED WHICH WOULD REFLECT UNFAVORABLY AGAINST HIM. LE BARON DID NOT REMEMBER THE EXACT DATE OF THIS TELEPHONE CALL FROM ALSOP BUT COMMENTED THAT THERE WAS A CONSIDERABLE PERIOD OF TIME WHICH ELAPSED BETWEEN THE TELEPHONE CALL AND THE PUBLICATION OF THE ALSOP COLUMN ON OCTOBER THIRTEEN, NINETEEN FIFTY. LE BARON ALSO COMMENTED THAT THE ALSOP BROTHERS REPORTEDLY HAD ACCESS TO THE OFFICE OF FORMER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FORRESTAL BUT THAT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE JOHNSON HAD AT THE OUTSET REFUSED TO COOPERATE WITH THE ALSOP BROTHERS AND CONSEQUENTLY THE ALSOP BROTHERS SO FAR AS HE KNEW HAD BEEN AVOIDING THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE. MR. LE BARON SAID THAT ON ONE OR TWO OCCASIONS HE HIMSELF HAS BEEN PRESENT AT SOCIAL FUNCTIONS WITH THE ALSOPS BUT THAT HE HAS NEVER DEVELOPED A PERSONAL ACQUAINTANCE WITH THEM AND THAT HE DEFINITELY HAD NOT FURNISHED ANY INFORMATION TO THE ALSOPS WHATSOEVER REGARDING ATOMIC ENERGY MATTERS AND IN PARTICULAR ANY INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THE TWO ALSOP COLUMNS IN QUESTION. MR. LE BARON STATED THAT A TOP SECRET

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REPORT FROM WHICH THE ARTICLE ENTITLED QUOTE HOW RED A-BLAST WAS DETECTED UNQUOTE WAS APPARENTLY TAKEN HAD BEEN AND WAS STILL IN THE POSSESSION OF THE MILITARY LIAISON COMMITTEE BUT HAD BEEN KEPT IN A SAFE UNDER APPROPRIATE PROTECTION AND SO FAR AS HE KNEW NO ONE HAD SEEN IT SINCE THE PRESIDENT'S SPEECH DISCLOSING THE EXISTENCE OF A RUSSIAN A BOMB. HE ALSO STATED THAT INFORMATION RELATING TO STOCK PILING OF BOMBS AND BOMBERS AS INDICATED BY THE ALSOP COLUMNS IN QUESTION HAD NEVER BEEN IN THE POSSESSION OF HIS OFFICE AMONG OFFICIAL REPORTS TO THE BEST OF HIS KNOWLEDGE. ALSO PRESENT DURING THE INTERVIEW WITH MR. LE BARON WERE COMMANDER LEON W. ROGERS, USN, AND MAJOR WESTON W. PRICE, AIR FORCE, BOTH ASSISTANTS TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE MILITARY LIAISON COMMITTEE. MR. LE BARON OFFERED HIS UTMOST COOPERATION AND DIRECTED HIS TWO ASSISTANTS TO EXTEND EVERY AID POINTING OUT THAT HIS OFFICE CONSIDERED THE DISCLOSURE BY THE ALSOPS TO BE A MOST SERIOUS OFFENSE AND THEY WANTED TO DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO ASSIST IN THIS INVESTIGATION.

SUBSEQUENT TO THE INTERVIEW WITH MR. LE BARON, COMMANDER ROGERS MADE CERTAIN GENERAL OBSERVATIONS, STRESSING THE FACT THAT THE DISSEMINATION OF MATERIAL SUCH AS THAT SET FORTH IN THE ALSOPS' COLUMNS IS VERY BROAD. HE ESTIMATED THAT THERE ARE SEVERAL HUNDRED INDIVIDUALS IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, AEC, CIA, STATE DEPARTMENT AND OTHER SPECIALIZED AGENCIES WHO... HAVE KNOWLEDGE OF SOME OF THE ITEMS OR ALL OF THE ITEMS WHICH APPEAR IN THE TWO COLUMNS. HE POINTED OUT THAT NOT ALL OF THESE INDIVIDUALS WOULD POSSESS SUFFICIENT KNOWLEDGE TO QUOTE WRITE THE COLUMN UNQUOTE BUT THAT THERE WERE A CERTAIN NUMBER WHO WOULD BE FULLY INFORMED AND WHO WOULD BE ABLE TO FURNISH THIS

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INFORMATION TO THE ALSOPS. BRIGADIER GENERAL A. R. LUEDECKE, AIR FORCE, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, MILITARY LIAISON COMMITTEE TO AEC, REPORTED THAT HE HAD RECENTLY EXAMINED A TOP SECRET REPORT, THE ONE PREVIOUSLY REFERRED TO BY MR. LE BARON AS BEING THE ONE UPON WHICH THE ARTICLE QUOTE HOW RED-A BLAST WAS DETECTED UNQUOTE MAY HAVE BEEN BASED BUT THAT TO THE BEST OF HIS RECOLLECTION HE COULD FIND NO PARTICULAR PHRASE WHICH COULD BE ATTRIBUTED SPECIFICALLY TO THAT REPORT. HE POINTED OUT THAT THIS TOP SECRET REPORT CONTAINED MERE CONCLUSIONS AND DID NOT MENTION PROCEDURES BY WHICH THESE CONCLUSIONS HAD BEEN REACHED. GENERAL LUEDECKE STATED THAT HE WOULD IMMEDIATELY TOMORROW TAKE STEPS TO MORE DEFINITELY ESTABLISH WHETHER OR NOT ANY OF THE FACTS CONTAINED IN THIS ALSOP COLUMN WERE EXTRACTED FROM THAT REPORT. GENERAL LUEDECKE POINTED OUT THAT THE ARTICLE ENTITLED QUOTE HOW RED-A BLAST WAS DETECTED UNQUOTE CONTAINED A CONSIDERABLE NUMBER OF INACCURACIES INCLUDING: COLUMN ONE, PARAGRAPH FOUR, BEING INACCURATE RELATIVE TO THE CHAIN OF STATIONS ALTHOUGH THERE WERE SOME EXPERIMENTAL STATIONS; COLUMN ONE, PARAGRAPH FIVE, BEING INACCURATE IN THAT GEIGER COUNTERS WERE NOT USED IN DETECTING THE ATOM BLAST, OTHER INSTRUMENTS BEING USED, AND IN THAT THERE WAS NO SECOND CHAIN OF STATIONS USED, ANOTHER METHOD BEING EMPLOYED; AND IN COLUMN ONE, LAST PARAGRAPH, THE INFORMATION STATING THAT THE TASK OF INTERPRETING THE CONCLUSIONS WAS ENTRUSTED TO THE SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY COMMISSION OF THE AEC WAS COMPLETELY INACCURATE, ALTHOUGH PROFESSOR ROBERT OPPENHEIMER WAS ONE OF THOSE WHO INTERPRETED THE CONCLUSIONS OBTAINED. IN THE SECOND COLUMN, PARAGRAPH ONE, THE INFORMATION WAS INCORRECT IN THAT

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THE EXPLOSION OCCURRED IN AUGUST AND NOT IN SEPTEMBER, THE REFERENCE TO THE GEIGER COUNTER WAS INCORRECT AND A GEIGER COUNTER DID NOT DETECT THE RADIO ACTIVE CLOUD. COLUMN TWO, PARAGRAPH THREE, WAS INCORRECT RELATIVE TO THE REFERENCE TO THE SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY BOARD AND THE STATEMENT CONTAINED IN PARAGRAPH FOUR WAS NOT IN THE ORIGINAL REPORT ALTHOUGH GENERAL LUEDECKE STATED THAT HE HAS HEARD PRACTICALLY ALL OF THE PEOPLE WHO DID EVALUATE THE REPORT MAKE SUBSTANTIALLY THE SAME REMARK. GENERAL LUEDECKE AND COMMANDER ROGERS DISCUSSED THE QUOTATION IN COLUMN TWO, PARAGRAPH FOUR, AND COMMANDER ROGERS VOICED THE OPINION THAT THIS STATEMENT WAS MADE RELATIVELY RECENTLY AND PRIOR TO THE ARTICLE BY GORDON DEAN, CHAIRMAN OF THE AEC, AT A PRESS CONFERENCE. COMMANDER ROGERS INDICATED THAT DEAN'S STATEMENT MAY NOT HAVE BEEN EXACTLY AS QUOTED BUT IT WAS THE SAME IN SUBSTANCE. HE INDICATED THAT ALTHOUGH HE FEELS DEAN MADE SUCH A STATEMENT, HE IS NOT CERTAIN. GENERAL LUEDECKE SAID THAT THE CONCLUSIONS RELATIVE TO DETECTION OF THE RUSSIAN A BOMB WERE DRAWN BY PROFESSOR OPPENHEIMER, DR. ROBERT FOX BACHER, REAR ADMIRAL WILLIAM S. PARSONS AND MAJOR GENERAL D. M. SCHLATTER, WHO, ACCORDING TO LUEDECKE, SHOWED THE REPORT TO SECRETARY OF DEFENSE JOHNSON, STEVE EARLY, GENERAL HOYT VANDENBERG AND GENERAL LOUIS NORSTAD AND TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES. GENERAL LUEDECKE SAID THAT THE CONCLUSIONS WERE ALSO MADE AVAILABLE TO [DR. CHARLES P. BONER, UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS, CHAIRMAN OF THE LONG RANGE DETECTOR PANEL OF THE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD] AND TO THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS OF THAT PANEL: DR. JOSEPH C. BOYCE, COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING, NYU; DR. JAMES B. FISK, DIRECTOR OF PHYSICAL RESEARCH, BELL TELEPHONE

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LABORATORY, NEW YORK CITY; DR. JAMES B. MACELWANE, PRESIDENT OF THE INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI; DR. ATHELSTON SPILHAUS, INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA; AND TO MR. DAVID Z. BECKLER, ACTING EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF THE COMMITTEE ON ATOMIC ENERGY OF THE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD AND EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF THE PANEL. THIS PANEL WAS CONCERNED WITH DETERMINING NEW APPROACHES TO ATOMIC DETECTION. WFO WILL INTERVIEW DAVID Z. BECKLER. GENERAL LUEDECKE INDICATED THAT HE IS PERSONALLY ACQUAINTED WITH JOSEPH ALSOP, HAVING KNOWN HIM IN CHINA DURING WORLD WAR II. HE CHARACTERIZED HIM AS A SHREWD MAN WHO IS EXTREMELY CAPABLE IN HIS FIELD. HE ADDED THAT JOSEPH ALSOP HAS UNUSUAL ABILITY IN BEING ABLE TO MENTALLY RECORD EVERYTHING WHICH HE SEES OR HEARS AND IS PARTICULARLY ADEPT AT DRAWING INFORMATION FROM INDIVIDUALS WHOM HE INTERVIEWS WITH SUCH SKILL THAT THEY SCARCELY REALIZE THAT THEY ARE IMPARTING INFORMATION. HE EXPRESSED THE OPINION THAT THE ALSOP ARTICLE OF DECEMBER THIRTY ONE, NINETEEN FIFTY, WAS PROBABLY WRITTEN WITHOUT ACCESS TO ANY PARTICULAR DOCUMENT BUT WAS RATHER COMPILED AS A RESULT OF INFORMATION COLLECTED OVER A CONSIDERABLE PERIOD OF TIME. HE COMMENTED THAT HE FEELS THAT THE ALSOPS COLLECT THEIR INFORMATION GRADUALLY OVER A CONSIDERABLE PERIOD BEFORE PLACING IT IN STORY FORM IN A COLUMN. GENERAL LUEDECKE COMMENTED THAT THE ALSOPS HAVE AN AMAZING NUMBER OF CONTACTS THROUGHOUT THE GOVERNMENT AND ARE CONSTANTLY IN TOUCH WITH PEOPLE ON A HIGH LEVEL. IN ADDITION TO THESE CONTACTS, LUEDECKE FELT THAT THEY ARE IN TOUCH WITH COUNTLESS OTHER PEOPLE IN ALL PHASES OF GOVERNMENT WORK IN WASHINGTON. GENERAL LUEDECKE MENTIONED THAT AMONG HIGH RANKING INDIVIDUALS KNOWN TO THE ALSOPS ARE GENERAL NORSTAD AND DR. VANNEVAR BUSH. WITH REFERENCE TO DR. BUSH, LUEDECKE COMMENTED THAT HE IS OF THE IMPRESSION THAT JOSEPH ALSOP SEES

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DR. BUSH ALMOST DAILY EVEN THOUGH DR. BUSH MAY NOT WISH TO SEE ALSOP. BUREAU REQUESTED TO ADVISE WHETHER DR. BUSH SHOULD BE INTERVIEWED. GENERAL LUEDECKE POINTED OUT THAT THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE WHICH PREPARED THE REPORT DESCRIBING THE METHOD BY WHICH THE SOVIET A BOMB EXPLOSION WAS DETECTED WHICH SERVED AS THE BASIS FOR PRESIDENT TRUMAN'S PUBLIC RELEASE ON SEPTEMBER THIRTY, NINETEEN FORTY NINE, HAS BEEN IN EXISTENCE FOR APPROXIMATELY ONE YEAR AND FOUR MONTHS. GENERAL LUEDECKE, COMMANDER ROGERS AND COLONEL HILL EACH STATED THAT THEY POSITIVELY DID NOT FURNISH ANY INFORMATION RELATIVE TO THIS MATTER TO THE ALSOP BROTHERS OR ANY OTHER UNAUTHORIZED INDIVIDUAL. INVESTIGATION CONTINUING.

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Mr. Belmont
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FBI WASHINGTON FIELD

DIRECTOR, FBI

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 9/25/89 BY 2058 BTJ

STEWART ALSOP, JOSEPH ALSOP, UNKNOWN SUBJECT, ESP - X. RESULTS OF INVESTIGATION AT
STATE DEPARTMENT. R. GORDON ARNESON, SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO UNDER-SECRETARY, AND HIS
ALTERNATE, JOSEPH CHASE, ARE SOLE INDIVIDUALS IN STATE DEPARTMENT HAVING CUSTODY OF
DOCUMENTS AND CONTROL OF INFORMATION PERTAINING TO ATOMIC ENERGY. ARNESON PRESENTLY HAS
POSSESSION OF JULY, NINETEEN FIFTY PRODUCTION ESTIMATES DOCUMENT AND HAS MAINTAINED IT
IN HIS CUSTODY SINCE RECEIPT. HE HAS PERMITTED THE FOLLOWING ENUMERATED INDIVIDUALS, IN
ADDITION TO CHASE AND HIMSELF, TO VIEW THAT DOCUMENT IN HIS PRESENCE BUT NOT TO HAVE
POSSESSION: SECRETARY OF STATE DEAN ACHESON; UNDER-SECRETARY OF STATE JAMES E. WEBB;
DEPUTY UNDER-SECRETARY OF STATE H. FREEMAN MATTHEWS; ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE JOHN D.
HICKERSON; LEGAL ADVISOR ADRIAN S. FISHER; POLICY PLANNING STAFF DIRECTOR PAUL H. NITZE;
POLICY PLANNING STAFF MEMBER CARLTON SAVAGE; FORMER POLICY PLANNING STAFF MEMBER HARRY H.
SCHWARTZ, NOW DETAILED TO ARMY WAR COLLEGE; SPECIAL ASSISTANT - INTELLIGENCE W. PARK
ARMSTRONG, JR.; ARMSTRONG'S DEPUTY, FISHER HOWE; AND TWO MEMBERS OF ARMSTRONG'S STAFF, T.
ACHILLES POLYZOIDES, DIRECTOR, SPECIAL PROJECTS STAFF, AND WILLIAM C. TRUEHEART,
INTELLIGENCE STAFF OFFICER. ALSO FOR CLERICAL HANDLING, JOSEPHINE DESKIN, ARNESON'S
SECRETARY; AND GENEVIEVE L. WEST, CHASE'S SECRETARY; AND DAVID H. MCKILLOP AND CLARENCE A.
WENDEL, OF ARNESON'S STAFF. IN ADDITION, WALLY BARBOUR AND HUGH CUMMING, BOTH NOW ON
STAFF OF AMEMBASSY OF MOSCOW, SHOWN INFORMATION. AS TO INFORMATION RELATIVE TO SOVIET
A-BOMB DETECTION, ARNESON ADVISED THAT ONLY METHOD BY WHICH ANYONE AT STATE DEPARTMENT
OFFICIALLY APPRIEZED OF THAT INFORMATION WAS BY ORAL BRIEFING, AND OF ABOVE INDIVIDUALS, 24

ONLY THE FOLLOWING WERE INFORMED OF THIS ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: J. MATTHEWS, NITZE,

EX - 83

RECORDED - 501

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SAVAGE, ARMSTRONG, HOWE, POLYZOIDES, TRUEHEART, ARNESON, AND CHASE. ARNESON, CHASE, SAVAGE, ARMSTRONG, POLYZOIDES, DAVIS, DESKIN, AND WEST ALL INTERVIEWED. ADMIT KNOWLEDGE OF INFORMATION, DENY FURNISHING IT TO ALSOPS OR ANY UNAUTHORIZED PERSONS, AND DENY CONTACT OR ACQUAINTANCE WITH ALSOPS. APPOINTMENTS ARRANGED FOR INTERVIEWS TOMORROW WITH NITZE, HOWE, AND TRUEHEART. ARRANGEMENTS BEING MADE FOR INTERVIEW OF FISHER, SCHWARTZ, McKILLOP, AND WENDEL. ~~BUREAU ADVISE REQUESTED AS TO WHETHER~~ UACB, ARNESON, WEBB, MATTHEWS, HICKERSON WILL BE INTERVIEWED. ARNESON, CHASE AND ARMSTRONG ALL POINTED OUT THAT PRODUCTION FIGURES, IN ADDITION TO PUBLICATION IN JULY, FIFTY ESTIMATES DOCUMENT, WERE ALSO CONTAINED IN THE SAME EXACT FORM IN DOCUMENT KNOWN AS "NSC - 68", WHICH RECEIVED WIDER DISSEMINATION THAN ESTIMATES DOCUMENT, FOR EXAMPLE, BUREAU OF BUDGET AND TREASURY DEPARTMENT, AND WHICH HAS ACTUALLY BEEN REFERRED TO BY TITLE IN ALSOPS' COLUMN INDICATING THE VERY STRONG PROBABILITY THAT THIS DOCUMENT WAS HIS SOURCE SINCE IT IS KNOWN HE MUST HAVE HAD ACCESS TO THIS, HAVING REFERRED TO IT BY TITLE. INVESTIGATION PROCEEDING.

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*1-9-50
WFO Instructed
to Hold Interviews
in absence pending
Bureau instructions*

*1-12-50
Interviewed - action
authorized - accepted
by Bel. to Ladd.
W.A.A.*